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**HELLO, READERS.** It's an exciting week this week. Why? Because someone came in the office with a snake, and I think snakes are amazing. But also because the three hottest bands in America – that'll be Sleeping With Sirens, Pierce The Veil and Of Mice & Men – are here, on these shores, in your town, and cooking up a storm! And you know what else is exciting? We're looking to make Kerrang! even better – and we want your help doing it! Head to p8 now and find out how you can shape the future of your favourite magazine, and maybe even win £500 to spend on music! Elsewhere in this issue, we deliver the first report, anywhere, on the heartbreaking new Kurt Cobain documentary, Montage Of Heck (p24) and tell a side to his story, so often not told. Did you see what I did there? Hiss. Like a snake. It's the noise snakes make. Enjoy the issue!

James  
Editor

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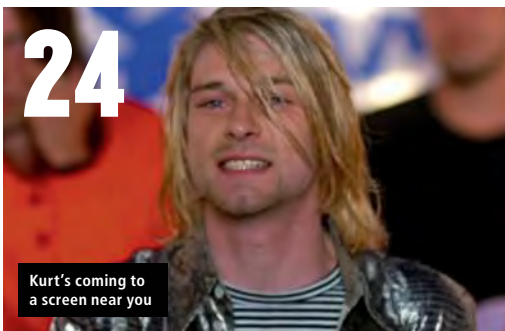
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THIS ISSUE WAS CREATED WITH HELP FROM...

Architects and ETID at The Roundhouse (that is all). Getting arrested by Judge Dredd and blowing all our money at London Super Comic Con! Kerrang! scribe Amit Sharma nearly killing himself in the Arctic Circle (he's okay, the wolves saved him). Lonely The Brave and The Xcerts at London's Student Central – all the feels. Steel Panther handing out 'photo passes' for the late (and dearly missed) Ashley Maile. K! writer Ian Winwood getting pins in his shoulder and therefore being more metal than everyone else forever.





# NEWS

**SAVE IT FOR  
SLAM DUNK!**

# CAVALIER

# TRUTHS!

**YOU ME AT SIX'S JOSH FRANCESCHI ADDRESSES  
THE RUMOURS SURROUNDING THEIR SLAM  
DUNK BIRTHDAY BASH...**

**O**h my god – are we excited for Slam Dunk?! We've gone so mad for the May festival that we've decided to add our own stage! This year, the Kerrang! Fresh Blood Stage will showcase some of the best new bands... and we're even giving you the chance to pick one – see that red box over there on the right to find out how to have your say!

We can also exclusively announce that joining the resident DJs on the Uprwr DJ Stage will be Dani and Davyd Winter-Bates (Bury Tomorrow DJ set), Tek-One, The Algorithm and Mel Clarke.

With all that off our chests, we wanted to address a few Slam Dunk rumours. Specifically the ones surrounding You Me At Six's headline set. A few weeks ago, Josh told us that the band were doing something special to mark the band's 10th year. To find out exactly what You Me At Six have in store, K! pinned down frontman Josh Franceschi and demanded some truths...

**HI JOSH! OKAY, STRAIGHT UP – ARE THE RUMOURS ABOUT YOU PLAYING TAKE OFF YOUR COLOURS TRUE OR NOT?!**

"The rumours of us playing *all* of Take Off Your Colours are... incorrect. However, with this being the 10th year of Slam Dunk as well

as You Me At Six's 10th year – and it being the home of where things really started for us – we *will* be extensively paying homage to that with songs from our first record!

**WELL, THAT CLEARS THAT UP... AND HOW ABOUT THE RUMOUR THAT THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME YOU'LL EVER PLAY TUNES OFF THAT RECORD?**

"If you're a You Me At Six fan and you want some real nostalgia, you should come along, because moving forward I can't promise that these are songs we'll still play. Sonically, they don't work with what we're doing now. That doesn't mean they're shit or that they don't deserve the air time! It just means we're in a different place."

**SOUNDS LIKE YOU'LL BE PUTTING THEM TO BED. THEN! DO YOU HAVE TO NOW GO AND RELEARN A LOT OF OLD SONGS?**

"In terms of getting them to the same level as the rest of our set is – there's going to be some work to do! But it's exciting for us to be doing that. These are songs we were playing when we were 16 to 19 years old and we've maybe neglected over the last few tours, especially in the UK where we've been focusing on our newer records. When we played these songs before, we didn't exactly nail them, because we were still finding our way. Now, we have a better



# "I WANT TO SING WITH FINCH!"

**JOSH FRANCESCHI**

understanding as a band of who we are and what we can do. We understand that these are songs that are important to people, and they are to me, too – the fact that they're still relevant is an amazing thing. We never forget where we came from, we never forget what a big part Slam Dunk played in the journey to where we're at now, and that's one of the reasons we wanted to come back and headline it again – to do something that is really for the fans."

**ARE YOU PLANNING ON SHOWING UP WITH TAKE OFF YOUR COLOURS-ERA HAIRCUTS, THEN?**

"(Laughs) Well, I'm not planning on growing my hair any time soon, and I don't think anyone else is, either! I think what's good about You Me At Six is that people know, regardless of the way we look and the way we dress, we are, at the core, the same kids listening to the same bands."

**SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE LOOKING AT THIS AS A BIG JOINT BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR BOTH YOU AND SLAM DUNK...**

"Massively. I first contacted [organiser] Ben Ray when I was 16, and he offered us a gig in Leeds, which was the most insane thing, we felt like we had made it! He brought us back to play

Slam Dunk and gave us that chance, and we've always been very close with him – we're lucky to have someone like him in our scene."

**ARE YOU LIKELY TO BRING ANY SPECIAL GUESTS UP ONSTAGE WITH YOU TO CELEBRATE?**

"Right now, I really couldn't say – but I just saw that Finch have been added to the line-up and part of me really wants to see if they'd be interested in me doing What It Is To Burn with them! It's so fucking weird for us – these are bands that soundtracked our upbringing, and being where we are on the line-up is a bit of a mindfuck, to be honest!"

**FOR FULL DATES, LINE-UP AND MORE INFO, SEE THE GIG GUIDE**

# FRESH BLOOD FEVER!

**K!'S NEW MUSIC ED, JENNYFER J. WALKER, ASKS WHO YOU WANT TO SEE PLAY AT SLAM DUNK 2015!**

**HERE AT K!**, we love new music! That's why we launched Fresh Blood last year to bring you the latest bands across Kerrang! magazine, K! TV and K! Radio. But it's about to get even better!

We're launching the Kerrang! Fresh Blood Stage at this year's Slam Dunk – and we're putting you in charge!

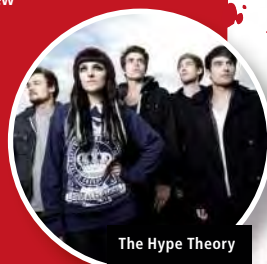
Alongside our pick of some of the best new bands in the world, we're offering up one of the slots for you (yes, you!) to fill.

By heading to [Kerrang.com/slamdunk](http://Kerrang.com/slamdunk), K! readers can pick from the likes of The Hype Theory, Trash Boat, ZOAX, Palm Reader, Astroid Boys, The LaFontaines, Dead!, Crooks, For The Win and Boy Jumps Ship to appear on the Kerrang! Fresh Blood Stage.

That's 10 bands and only one slot available, so make sure you vote, because things are going to get seriously messy!

So, have your say on who gets a shot at smashing the stage at the K! Award-winning festival – and if you don't vote, don't you dare ever complain about a festival line-up ever again! Seriously!

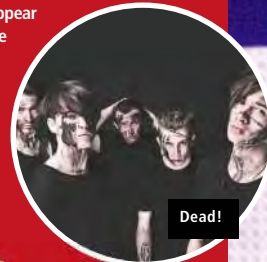
The winners get to appear on the bill alongside the likes of You Me At Six, Taking Back Sunday, Don Broco, Architects, While She Sleeps and tons more – so, no pressure! Anyway, why are you even still reading this? Go and vote... go now!



The Hype Theory



ZOAX



Dead!

*Jen x*

**VOTE ONLINE NOW AT  
KERRANG.COM/SLAMDUNK**



**"I DIDN'T  
PUNCH  
ANYBODY!"**

**AFTER K!'S INVESTIGATION INTO BANDS  
SCRAPPING WITH FANS, ANDY BERSACK GIVES  
HIS SIDE OF WHEN ROCKSTARS ATTACK...**

WHEN BLACK Veil Brides frontman Andy Biersack lost his cool onstage in Vancouver last month, the video quickly spread across internet. The fracas, which saw Andy call out a heckler before leaping into the crowd, turned the show into a talking point about Andy Biersack 'losing it'. But did he really? And what does he think of the incident now? K! caught up with the singer to discuss the potential-punch-up in the Pacific Northwest...

**"I'M THE GUY  
WHO TRIES TO  
CHAMPION  
POSITIVITY!"**  
**ANDY BERSACK**

**HELLO, ANDY! FROM YOUR VANTAGE POINT,  
WHAT HAPPENED TO MAKE YOU LOSE  
YOUR TEMPER ONSTAGE IN VANCOUVER?**

"The interesting thing is that it doesn't matter what I say about what happened in Vancouver. What matters is what everyone sees in the video, and what people perceive it to be. The great irony of my life is that I'm the guy who tries to champion positivity. I try to talk to the fans and not to see myself as being in any way different or better than they are. And yet... the story is that here I am in a brawl of sorts with the fans. Whether or not that's the reality is another matter, because that's now the story!"

**WHAT CAUSED YOU TO SNAP, THOUGH?**

"From my perspective, I saw a guy in the audience who was being aggressive towards fans, real fans. He was pushing people around. He was trying to 'skank-dance', but was doing so in a manner that was aggressive towards other fans, young fans, and

who between every song for the first three songs in the set was yelling aggressive things. So by this point my dam just broke, because I'm seeing the antithesis of what I perceive my audience to be. But people will watch that video and think that 'Andy is this crazy hothead who just wants to fight people', and that's fine. Yes, I am a hothead. I grew up in a sporting environment. I'm not saying it's my shining moment, though!"

**WE'RE NOW SOME WEEKS AFTER THE  
EVENT. WHEN YOU LOOK BACK ON IT, WHAT  
DO YOU THINK NOW?**

"I understand that I'm the guy that can be riled up. I get it. Should I rise above that? Yes, I should. But I didn't. I didn't hurt anybody. I didn't attack anybody. I didn't punch anybody. Did I intend to do that? Yes. It was my intention to fight that guy. He ran out of the venue – that he was being kicked out of anyway – and it's all moot now."

**SO, WHAT'S FAIR GAME FROM A MEMBER  
OF THE AUDIENCE, AND WHAT COUNTS AS  
UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR?**

"They can do anything they want. If you pay your money to come to the show, then you can stand there and yell anything you want. But that doesn't mean that I have to accept it. It's the reason you don't shout 'Fire!' in a cinema. It's not that you can not do that, it's that you should not do it."

**SEE THE VIDEO ON KERRANG.COM.  
TURN TO P48 FOR OUR BVB REVIEW!**

WORDS: JAM WINWOOD PHOTO: PAUL HARRIES



The investigation  
in K!1559



THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF THE SYMPHONIC METAL STORYTELLERS!

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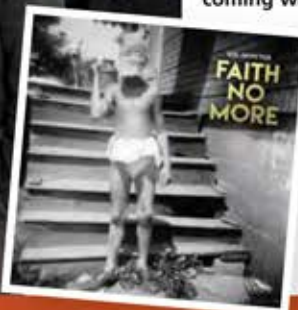
# FAITH NO MORE

"WE'RE NOT AFRAID OF FAILURE"

K! GO INSIDE THE ROCK LEGENDS' LONG-AWAITED NEW ALBUM...



Mike Patton was looking radiant...



IT'S BEEN 18 years since Faith No More released their last studio album. But now, with new record *Sol Invictus* in the bag, the band are finally ready to talk. Ahead of K!'s exclusive feature with Mike Patton and co, we caught up with bassist Billy Gould and keyboardist Roddy Bottum to give us our first delicious taste of what the new album holds.

"What we've done with this album," explains Billy, "is create something new that conforms to the long-running chemistry that we have."

"We've always been a band that has tried not to repeat ourselves," he continues, "so it was a question of keeping our minds young enough to still be able to seek out new things and to explore in new directions."

Delivering an album that was almost two decades coming wasn't as daunting as you might think, though.

"We're not afraid to do things that are seen as being failures. We're not afraid to take chances. But what we didn't want to do

is release a new album after all these years and have it suck! It was important to us to make an album that held up to the other albums, and I think *Sol Invictus* does that."

In order to avoid a disappointing return, the band have had complete control over the record from the start, with Billy taking on production duties himself, recording the album in the band's practice space in Oakland, California.

"It feels apt that the first track we released was

**"WE KEPT OUR MINDS YOUNG!"**

**BILLY GOULD**

*Motherfucker* – a song about accountability," Roddy enthuses. "Basically we've created, recorded and mixed a new body of work by ourselves and we're releasing it on our own label, Reclamation."

It's a huge deal for us to only have ourselves to answer to at this point in our career," he concludes.

If *Motherfucker* and latest taste *Superhero* are anything to go by, the new record's well worthy of an 18-year wait. It's certainly sounding epic rather than, y'know, a midlife crisis. Sorry.

**SOL INVICTUS IS RELEASED IN MAY. FOR THE FULL STORY SEE K!1564, OUT APRIL 15**

WORDS: NAY SCDROW

**KERRANG!**

# NEEDS YOU!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT KERRANG! AND YOU COULD WIN £500 WORTH OF MUSIC... DO IT FOR DAVE!

HELLO, YOU! Yeah, you! We were looking for some feedback on Kerrang! and we thought, 'Who better to ask than the people who know us best – our awesome readers!'

So, now that we've got your attention for a moment, we want to know what you like about the mag. We're not just looking for mindless compliments (although feel free to send us those, too, they're good for our egos) – we also want to know what you'd like to see change in the mag.

This is your chance to have your say on the world's biggest-selling rock magazine (that's

us!) – we want you to call the shots and help shape the Kerrang! of tomorrow! We can't promise photos of rockstars on hoverboards or flying tour buses – but we're going to do our best!

So, tell us what bands you want to see more of... and what bands you want to see less of! We want to know your favourite TV shows, and what makes you laugh out loud! Do you want more pictures of Dave Grohl pointing at you? Tell us now!

Just in case you aren't already filling the form in as you read this – we've also chucked in the chance for you to win £500 worth of music! Boom!

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PHOTO: BOSS HALEN



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ROCK SOUND



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# FRESH BLOOD

ROCK'S BREAKING BANDS BY JENNYFER J. WALKER

## BLACK PEAKS

**DO NOT ADJUST YOUR SET, BRIGHTON POST-ROCKERS BLACK PEAKS ARE CONTROLLING TRANSMISSION**

**THEY'RE NEVER LETTING THIS LOT NEAR DIXONS AGAIN...**

Probably for the best. That's Brighton-based Black Peaks, so you know. The progressive-metal four-piece blur the lines between real life and what's on the telly box in the video for their most recent single, Glass Built Castles (which you can download free at Kerrang.com). And according to lead singer Will Gardner, it's a dead-clever metaphor: "Everyone's so distant from what happens in other countries these days," says Will. "They see stuff on TV and it doesn't mean anything – even though it's real and happened to real

people. Our generation just has this cold cut-off where nothing really seems to affect us."

**IS POLITICS A SUBJECT THAT WEIGHS HEAVY ON BLACK PEAKS' MUSIC, THEN?**

Yes and no. Well... more no. But while the band might not be trying to bring down the government any time soon, a bleak look at the future of society does snake its way through the band's lyrical narratives. "The basic idea of it is based on a Black Mirror, Charlie Brooker-like alternative future where a load of stuff just goes really, really wrong," explains Will. "We're not a political punk band and we're not massively politically charged. But I think it's important that people think about this stuff. Rather than just present people with: 'Yeah! Smash the fucking system, man! Burn it all to the ground!' we prefer to say: 'Imagine if everyone did go and smash stuff up...'"

**WHAT DOES THIS STUFF SOUND LIKE, ANYWAY?**

The name is a good place to start. Taken from a still-active Alaskan super volcano, the band found themselves drawn to the moniker due to there being "something dark about it", says Will. "It's a bit unknown and mysterious – and just sounds a bit like the music, in a weird way." But if geographical comparisons don't do it for you, then imagine a Jackson Pollock-style layering of Mastodon, Thrice, Oceansize, Karnivool, Tool and The Dillinger

Escape Plan – all influences that Black Peaks reference. "I think an amalgamation of all those things put together... and you're somewhere near what we sound like," adds the frontman.

**WHEN CAN WE HEAR THAT MISH-MASH ON A FULL ALBUM?**

It's estimated for release before the end of 2015. And until then, who knows what lays in wait... "You can only hope and see how high it flies, can't you?" acknowledges Will. "It's such a difficult one... to say, 'We'd like to be as big as Muse,' sounds ridiculous, it sounds like a ridiculous thing to say – but that's what we'd like. Whether that happens is another thing. You've just got to go with the ride and see what happens."

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

**FOR FANS OF:** Mastodon, The Dillinger Escape Plan and Oceansize.

**HEAR:** Glass Built Castles, which you can download free at Kerrang.com!

**CHECK OUT:** The fuzzy new video for that same song (which inspired this shoot) on YouTube now!

**MORE INFO:** Facebook.com/blackpeaks

**DON'T MISS:** Black Peaks and more killer new bands on Alex Baker's Fresh Blood show on Wednesdays at 10pm on K! Radio, and Kerrang! TV's #freshbloodfridays on Sky 368, Virgin 342 and Freesat 524.

**HEAR THEM NOW ON KERRANG.COM**



Black Peaks (from left): Andrew Gosden (bass), Will Gardner (vocals), Liam Kearley (drums), Joe Gosney (guitar/vocals)





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 **tweets of**

@JackAllTimeLow

Jack Barakat, All Time Low

"If you wake up looking for your pants and can't find them in under two minutes... NO PANTS DAY!"

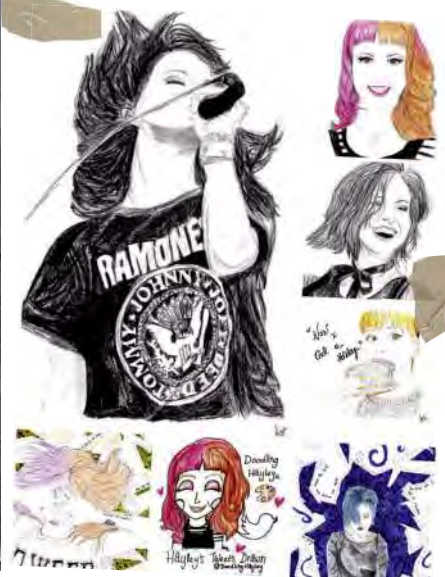


## PARA-MORE!

HI K!, over the past year or so, all I seem to have drawn is Hayley Williams! That may sound odd, but a lot of it was for an art exam. It's even gone so far that I've even set up a Twitter account dedicated to my Hayley drawings! Here are some of my favourites, if you're interested!

KAITLYN, VIA EMAIL

These are a riot, Kaitlyn! Do you see Hayley's face when you close your eyes? She must be burned into your brain by now! It's cool that you've done different styles to mix it up. Plus, Hayley changes her hair every five minutes – keeps you on your toes, eh?



## SUPERMASSIVE PACKED BAGS

**STAR LETTER**

DEAR KERRANG!, are you ready to see Muse at Download?! I am! I've already got my camping gear packed – honestly, I'm not kidding! My uni mates think I'm mental! Anyway – I tried to get tickets to see them in Exeter but they sold out before I could buy 'em. I'm really pumped for the new album, Drones, and your piece on the secret history of the band last week [K!1560] only made me more excited to see 'em in June. Matt Bellamy, if you're reading this, I'll be the guy at the front going mental!

JAMES, EXETER

We're excited to see what the new Muse album holds, too, James! Have you really packed your bags for Download already, though?! That is... organised! We usually do our packing on the Friday morning of Download with a banging hangover from the Kerrang! Awards the night before. That's why we have to wear the same shorts every day, even if it's raining. Oh well!



## PANDORA by Ray Zell

Rayzell.com

HEY, FRNK, TO CELEBRATE YER NEW VID FOR 'SHE'S THE PRETTIEST GIRL AT THE PARTY', BLAH, BLAH, BLAH, ETC. ETC., GERARD HAS EVEN LOANED US LOLA TO ADD TO THE FURRY LOVE OVERLOAD.

THAT'S GREAT, PNDR...



... BUT, FORGET THESE STUPID FAKE BEAR SUITS...

... THE VIDEO IS ABOUT REVEALING YOUR TRUE INNER CUDDLY BEAR.



I'M FEELIN' IT!



SOME TIME LATER...



NOT SURE... BUT, DUDE...

... PINK FUR IN YER TEETH? NOT A GOOD LOOK.





# the week

Because rockstars are obsessed with Twitter, too...

@deathoftheparty  
Keith Buckley,  
Every Time I Die  
"His name is Gary  
Oldman because his  
great grandfather  
was a professional  
old man..."



@KirkHammett  
Kirk Hammett, Metallica  
"I hear you're having  
trouble finding me on  
FB. I didn't think there'd  
be so many people  
pretending to be me!"



## VAMPIRES WILL NEVER HURT YOU

HI KERRANG!, me and my friend Lucy went to see Black Veil Brides, Fearless Vampire Killers and Like A Storm. We had a smasher of a time and we were absolutely thrilled to meet Kier from FVK!

OLIVIA AND LUCY, VIA EMAIL

Olivia, Kier's our favourite ghoul. He pops in the K! office and brings us presents. What a dude!

## BLESSTHEPHOTO

HI K!, I was lucky enough to meet Blessthefall at their Birmingham signing. They were such nice guys!

NATHAN, VIA EMAIL

Nice photo, Nathan! Did they speak without leaving any gaps? Justlikethisbutoutloud...



## CAKE YOUR PIC!

HEY K!, I got these amazing rock band cupcakes for my birthday. Check 'em out!

RHIAN, VIA EMAIL

Rhian, if we can name all of the bands on these cupcakes, will you send us some? Bands are kind of our speciality... and cakes. Mmm.

# THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART

WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST SONGS IN ROCK THIS WEEK? LET'S CONSULT THE OFFICIAL CHART...

	WEEKS ON CHART	HIGHEST POSITION	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	3	1	FALL OUT BOY	Irresistible	ISLAND
2	4	1	OF MICE & MEN	Broken Generation	RISE RECORDS
3	5	1	ALL TIME LOW	Something's Gotta Give	HOPLESS
4	6	3	LONELY THE BRAVE	Trick Of The Light	HASSLE RECORDS
5	1	5	ALL TIME LOW	Kids In The Dark	HOPLESS
6	5	6	WE ARE HARLOT	Dancing On Nails	ROADRUNNER
7	4	7	HALESTORM	Apocalyptic	ATLANTIC
8	1	8	YOUNG GUNS	Speaking In Tongues	VIRGIN EMI
9	2	9	WE ARE THE OCEAN	Do It Together	BMG
10	8	4	MARILYN MANSON	Deep Six	HELL
11	9	2	ENTER SHIKARI	Anaesthetist	ENTER SHIKARI
12	1	12	BLITZ KIDS	Keep Swinging	RED BULL RECORDS
13	18	1	BRING ME THE HORIZON	Drown	SONY
14	7	9	KID ROCK	First Kiss	WARNER BROS.
15	11	2	FALL OUT BOY	American Beauty/American Psycho	ISLAND
16	20	1	ROYAL BLOOD	Ten Tonne Skeleton	WARNER
17	1	17	SET IT OFF	Ancient History	RUDE RECORDS
18	1	18	COLDRAIN	Time Bomb	VAP
19	12	5	PAPA ROACH	Face Everything And Rise	ELEVEN SEVEN
20	7	14	AS IT IS	Dial Tones	FEARLESS

## SEE/HEAR THE OFFICIAL KERRANG! ROCK CHART!

The Official Kerrang! Rock Chart is made up of airplay across Kerrang! Radio, Kerrang! TV and specialist rock stations. The show airs on K! Radio every Saturday at 12:30pm with Dan Hudson, and also on K! TV Thursdays at 5pm and Saturdays at 6pm. Tune in and listen up!

KERRANG! TV

KERRANG! RADIO

# WIN! MOTÖRHEAD VINYLs!

EVERYTHING LOUDER than everything else! That's the Motörhead manifesto. Well, we guarantee that if you listen to all nine (yes, nine!) of these classic albums on vinyl louder than the one before it, your ears will explode! KABOOM! Anyway, Lemmy guess - you want the pleasure of the band's husky roar battering your lugholes, right? Well, to be in with a chance, all you have to do is head over to Winit.kerrang.com! Go!





# your LAST CHANCE!

**FINAL  
WEEK!**

FOUR T-SHIRT DESIGNS  
MADE EXCLUSIVELY BY  
ROCKSTARS! ⚡



**A DAY TO  
REMEMBER**

## HOW YOU CAN GET YOURS FREE!

**1** THIS IS THE FINAL TOKEN! THIS IS YOUR FINAL CHANCE!

**2** COLLECT 10 TOKENS AND CHOOSE YOUR FAVOURITE EXCLUSIVE BAND T-SHIRT – YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET IT ANYWHERE ELSE!

**3** EVERY WEEK, STICK YOUR TOKEN ON THE GRID OPPOSITE. ONCE YOU'VE

COLLECTED ENOUGH FOR A T-SHIRT, SEND THE GRID TO US ALONG WITH THE FORM. YOU DON'T EVEN NEED A STAMP!

**4** WE MUST RECEIVE ALL GRIDS/FORMS BY APRIL 8, 2015. ALL T-SHIRTS WILL BE POSTED OUT IN MAY

**5** ANY QUESTIONS? EMAIL US AT [TSHIRTS@KERRANG.COM](mailto:TSHIRTS@KERRANG.COM)

THIS IS YOUR TOKEN! ➔





# START COLLECTING NOW!

ENTER  
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FOR ALL YOUR  
MINDSWEET  
NEEDS!

VORTEX PITCHING  
& BOUNDARY ABUSING  
AT NO EXTRA CHARGE.

Traditional Professional  
MINDSWEET SERVICE  
EST. 2003

ENTER  
**SHIKARI**

**ALL TIME  
LOW**

**ALL TIME LOW**

**SLEEPING  
WITH SIRENS**

## CUT OUT AND POST THIS!

TO CLAIM YOUR EXCLUSIVE T-SHIRT, FILL IN YOUR DETAILS  
AND SEND TO: **KERRANG! FREEPOST RSKX-CGJL-SJUL**,  
**BEECH ROAD, HIGH WYCOMBE, HP11 1RY** BY APRIL 8, 2015

- ☐ I AM 16 YEARS OR OVER  
☐ I AM UNDER 16 AND HAVE PARENTAL CONSENT TO COLLECT TOKENS FOR A FREE T-SHIRT

I'VE COLLECTED 10 K! TOKENS AND I WANT  
A T-SHIRT DESIGNED BY:

- ☐ All Time Low  
☐ A Day To Remember  
☐ Sleeping With Sirens  
☐ Enter Shikari

IN THE FOLLOWING SIZE:

- ☐ Small  
☐ Medium  
☐ Large  
☐ X-large

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MALE ☐ FEMALE

☐ I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM KERRANG! BY SMS AND EMAIL

Offer only open to our readers who live in the UK. If you're under 16 years old, please ask for a parent or guardian's permission. Collect 10 tokens to redeem a T-shirt! We're printing tokens on a weekly basis from 07/01/2015 (issue 1550) until 25/03/2015 (issue 1561) – that's 12 weeks. There are now not enough issues to collect 10 tokens unless you buy more than one copy of the same issue. Closing date for receipt of tokens is 08/04/2015. We must receive your tokens by then in order to send you a T-shirt. Please note that all T-shirts will be mailed on 08/05/2015, regardless of the date you return your tokens. You can email us with questions at [tshirts@kerrang.com](mailto:tshirts@kerrang.com). Promoter: Bauer Media, Endeavour House, 189 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JG. (Please do not send completed forms to this address).

1

2

3

4

5

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10

**GET YOUR  
EXCLUSIVE  
T-SHIRT!**





BATTEN DOWN THE HATCHES... DOUBLE-LOCK YOUR FRONT DOORS... SECURE ALL YOUR LOOSE PETS... BECAUSE THIS WEEK THE AMERICAN INVASION IS UPON US – LED BY **OF MICE & MEN**, **PIERCE THE VEIL** AND **SLEEPING WITH SIRENS** – AND THEY HAVE COME FOR OUR VENUES...

★ WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY, MARTIN PHILBEY ★

**OF MICE  
&  
MEN**



# ALL AMERICAN HERO







PIERCE  
THE  
VEIL

SLEEPING  
WITH  
SIRENS

THE  
AMERICAN  
INVASION

★★★★★  
“ALL OF THESE  
SHOWS ARE GOING  
TO BE ABSOLUTELY  
MASSIVE!”

KELLIN QUINN

★★★★★

**W**e're not normally superstitious types here at Kerrang!, but sometimes it does feel like the stars just align. And you'd be forgiven for assuming a bit of astrological good luck is in play this week. After all, three of the most exciting bands on the planet are hitting the UK for what promises to be a run of shows to rival any other in recent memory. In the red corner we have Of Mice & Men, the rising metal princes who are eyeing up the throne with each tour that goes by. "We're psyched to get back over and crush the UK again!" offers a breathless Austin Carlile. "And to let you in on a secret, on this tour we're going to be playing a really long set with a load of old stuff. So, if you've ever been a fan of Of Mice & Men, there is definitely going to be something for you!"

If it's tag-team action you prefer, though, across the ring we have Sleeping With Sirens and Pierce The Veil, two of the hottest young properties on the scene right now, in the throes of completing a co-headline world tour of truly monumental proportions.

"The shows we've done so far in the U.S. have been phenomenal," enthuses SWS' Kellin Quinn. "But we are extra-excited to get over to the UK to show you guys what we're all about and bring some songs to the table from our new album [Madness]. All of these gigs are going to be absolutely massive. Oh, and you get two bands for the price of one!"

You sure do. And for Pierce The Veil's part, it is their first time on British soil since a support slot with Bring Me The Horizon in 2013. And with BMTH now breaking the door to Wembley down, could PTV follow suit?

"We're coming back to show everyone what we're made of," grins main man Vic Fuentes. "I want to see the maddest crowds we've ever had in the UK, and I have a sneaking feeling that I'm not going to be disappointed!"

So, whether you fancy exposing your bones, think you can run with the bulls in the Bronx, or just want to prove you can hang, it's time to brace yourself for the week to end all weeks.

Forget the stars aligning – three of the biggest are about to crash onto a stage near you...





## AUSTIN CARLILE'S ARRIVAL ON BRITISH SHORES THIS WEEK WON'T SIMPLY CROWN A MONUMENTAL 12 MONTHS FOR OF MICE & MEN – IT'LL BE A LANDMARK MOMENT

**A**ustin Carlile is, to put it mildly, purring with satisfaction.

"I guess we knew that 2014 was going to be a big 12 months for us," he smiles. "But I don't think anybody in the band expected it to be as big as it ended up being."

In truth, there weren't too many people out there at all who were betting on Of Mice & Men to have enjoyed the monolithic year they just have. The release of *Restoring Force* – their best record to date – has catapulted the quintet out of the mid-level scenecore ranks and turned them into a proposition all of their own. A band right at the vanguard of a new wave of modern metal, now leading the charge. And at the centre of that story stands Austin – a talismanic frontman.

"In a way it's scary, because before this came along, I was nothing," offers the singer, sombrely. "After the shit that I went through, experienced, saw in the early part of my life, I was going

nowhere. Anything past year 20 of my life has been like icing on the cake. I almost feel like maybe I died when I was 19, and that I've made it to Heaven, because, honestly, right now, getting to do this is beyond words to me."

No kidding. After all, the last time OM&M were in the UK, it was sharing London's O2 Arena stage with Linkin Park, and Austin was singing songs with performers he himself once idolised.

"Did I ever, ever believe that I'd get to be onstage with Linkin Park in London?" ponders Carlile. "Of course not... but I did! That's the insane thing about this band right now. It feels like whatever goals we might set, wherever the bar might be, we can match them and better them. Anything is possible."

**O**n one hand, then, Of Mice & Men's largest-scale UK tour dates thus far are simply another landmark in the quintet's increasingly storied history: the biggest venues

yet, the most euphoric crowds so far. Yet for all the magnitude, there is something else more pressing on Austin's mind.

"Don't get me wrong, all that stuff is great," he smiles. "But for us, it's something we just fanboy out over, like, 'Look at this huge awesome rock show we get to play!' The thing that I reflect on more seriously is when we fly into a city and we have people meeting us at the airport. Or when we turn up to a venue and there are fans waiting outside. To be able to have that impact on those people is amazing – and to see that happening in recent times has given me a lot to think about."

"I was that kid once, I was that person who was so affected by music and so affected by the stories the bands I loved were telling that it changed my life," he continues. "Me and Aaron [Pauley, OM&M bassist/vocalist] talk about it a lot – how our stories that we both tell are more important now than ever before."

It is that unswerving dedication to both artistry and those who have supported him that perhaps truly sets Austin apart as one of the most vital rockstars of the modern era. As we chat, he frequently shuns notions of typical famous-guy trappings ("If you want to have a big bank balance, don't get into music!") but welcomes with open arms less tangible measures of success and, indeed, failure. "My main commitment is to the other guys in this band," he notes. "For us to keep making the best art we can make and to keep doing it on our terms. I've learnt a lot since *Restoring Force* came out: about being humble, about being dedicated, and about the rewards that are there for an artist if you seek to take them. I want to be a band who people are talking about in years to come, to build a career. Ultimately, the way to do that is to stay true to yourself."

But perhaps the most crucial lesson learnt for Austin, in this swirling whirlwind of a year, is the

value of simply pausing, looking around and taking some time to reflect. Considering the value of where he is now, and the acclaim which his band has slowly but surely gathered.

"I've had to train myself to look around and smell the roses," he laughs. "People say that all the time, but when you *actually* do it, it can blow your mind. I feel like one of the wealthiest people in the world right now. This journey has been phenomenal, and continues to be so."

And what Austin will see as he looks around now is his band undertaking a run of gigs that represent a crowning glory for them in the UK. A closing bookmark on a period of remarkable success both creatively and in terms of profile.

"This is a chance for us to really plant our flag in Britain," grins Austin. "To keep climbing that ladder and for me to prove to that 19-year-old who had nothing going for him what can happen when things click into place. And you know what,

Austin was still getting to grips with the idea of cupping his hands to his mouth to sound louder



# MEN

## IN A LIFELONG JOURNEY...

if we don't bring it, then who the hell will?"

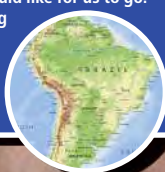
There is no need to wonder or pass the buck, though: Of Mice & Men's stellar rise looks set to keep accelerating at snowball pace. The only question: just how far could they, and Austin, go? Place your bets for the next 12 months now...

### THE BEST-LAID PLANS OF OM&M!

AUSTIN'S TICKED  
PLAYING WITH LINKIN  
PARK FROM HIS  
BUCKET LIST – BUT  
WHAT REMAINS?

#### ★ PLAY ALL OVER THE WORLD

★ "We've been very lucky to get to play in lots of cool places. We recently did Soundwave in Australia, for example, but there are still lots of places this band hasn't been that I would like for us to go. ★ South America is a big place for us, bits of Africa... I'm keen to see as much of the world as I can."



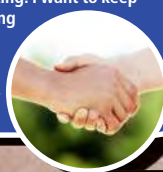
#### ★ TOP FESTIVAL BILLS

★ "Of course we want to play to the biggest crowds imaginable, and I'd love to headline the big festivals like Download. Maybe more importantly, though, I think there's a bunch of bands in this generation – A Day To Remember, Black Veil Brides, Bring Me The Horizon – who I see those headline slots belonging to soon."



#### ★ MEET MORE HEROES

★ "I've got to meet a lot of people I look up to through this band. Hearing the Incubus dudes say, 'We checked out your record on Spotify,' or talking to Killer Be Killed about music, has been amazing. I want to keep meeting those inspiring people, and keep learning from them. It's one of the great pleasures of this job."







# ★ PIERCE ★

Vic soon grew tired of holding our 'E'

**TOURING WITH SIRENS!**  
WHAT VIC HAS FOUND OUT ABOUT SLEEPING WITH SIRENS ON THE U.S. LEG OF THEIR WORLD TOUR...

★ **WE ARE RELATED!**

★ "Their new guitarist, Nick Martin, used to play in a band with my brother [and PTV drummer] Mike when we were growing up. They used to practise in our bedroom! Later on, we realised that Nick and us were distant cousins. It's just so bizarre!"



★ **JACK FOWLER IS A DEMON ON GUITAR!**

★ "That guy rips! Every day I turn up to the venue and he'll be shredding something insane. He's got serious soul and it really comes across in his playing. He also made me buy a Les Paul the other day!"



★ **KELLIN IS A GREAT FAMILY MAN!**

★ "He's always on the phone to his kid and it's lovely to see. The more we've got to know and spend time with him, the more you see how important his family is. I admire and respect him very much for that."



★ **THEY BLAST LOUD MUSIC AT THE MOST INAPPROPRIATE TIME!**

★ "The other day, we were trying to do a meet and greet, and all they wanted to do was play St. Anger by Metallica on repeat. It was super hard to concentrate. Cheers for that, guys!"





# THE VEIL



WITH A NEW ALBUM STUCK IN DEVELOPMENT HELL, **VIC FUENTES** IS HOPING THE UK

CAN HELP **PIERCE THE VEIL** GET IT OVER THE LINE AT THEIR BIGGEST SHOWS EVER...

**R**ecently we've just kept buying pyro until the man upstairs tells us it's either more money than we make from the gig itself, or that it's a genuine safety hazard," chuckles Vic Fuentes, a fire-starting glint sparkling firmly in the corner of his eye. "We order the biggest stuff we can! You should see some of the things we're bringing on this tour, man. They're *insane*!"

Y'see, for Pierce The Veil's frontman, the pure, unadulterated spectacle of live performance is the name of the game right now – and serious ammo is required for a band who are, potentially, on the cusp of making an even bigger bang on a global scale.

It's been a long time coming, though. After all, it has been 18 agonising months since the San Diegoan quartet last toured in the UK and, even more pertinently, nearly three whole years since their most recent full-length effort, the 4K-rated *Collide With The Sky*, hit the shelves to huge acclaim.

And so, on the brink of the UK leg of their world tour, PTV sit at something of a career crossroad – a fact not lost on Mr Fuentes. It's time to return with full force, bigger and better than ever before.

"We've seen and realised a lot while we've been out [of action] working on our new record," reflects Vic today, of his band's recent slow progress. "The importance of the album that we release next is clear to us, so we've delved very deeply into ourselves, both as a band and as individual musicians, to really try to find out who we want to be. It's been a pretty intense experience. Have we changed as people in the time we've been making it? Absolutely, 100 per cent."

Indeed, if an extended time away in the studio has exerted its influence on the band's personality, it is hoped that a little time away from the mixing desk now will provide a similarly positively impact on the album they are in the midst of making.

"I think this recent spate of touring will be crucial to completing the new record. I always read about bands taking time out to tour in the middle of making albums because that's what reminds them of what they love about music, and that has certainly been the case for us. Playing live is the thing that fuels the

fire of this band. To be onstage and have the energy coming back at you from the crowd, to have some loud amps blasting behind you, is the best feeling in the world and we're excited to be getting back to it."

**W**ith new material being moulded behind the scenes for more than a year, then, perhaps the most pressing question is whether fans will be getting to hear oven-fresh Pierce The Veil songs live over the coming weeks.

"Not quite yet," offers Vic, after an almost sheepish pause. "We'll have to wait a little



**"THESE SHOWS  
WILL BE CRUCIAL  
TO COMPLETING  
THE NEW RECORD"**

**VIC FUENTES**



longer for those..."

Instead, what we are going to see is a rejuvenated, reinvigorated band whose sonic palette and psychological mind-set are, according to them at least, in the best condition they have ever been.

"I think we're much more comfortable now with making big, bold moves," chimes Vic. "That comes across when we're in the studio and I think it is coming across with the kinds of gigs we are playing now. We want to push the envelope of what Pierce The Veil can achieve in all areas."

"I feel pretty strongly that we're much more ready than we ever have in the UK to show what we're really about," continues the frontman. "It can be hard, when you're so far from home, to exert your full presence on people, y'know? But we've performed

in Britain a lot at this point and we've built an incredible fanbase unlike any other – a fanbase we have a real connection with. We know we can take things to the next level this time around: the crew is ready and, most importantly, we as a band are ready."

Certainly, if there is one trait that oozes from Vic at this juncture, it's confidence. Not arrogance or cockiness, just an assured knowledge that he and his bandmates are not going to mess up at what is, by any barometer, a crucial stage of their development.

"We're playing the best, longest set we've ever brought to Britain on this tour," confirms Vic. "We've got ticker-tape, fireworks, the whole lot... We're bringing a show people won't forget in a hurry."

It's a confidence galvanised by the fact that Pierce The Veil have already had a taste of what genuinely large-scale success can look like back home in their native U.S..

"We've just made the jump to start playing arenas in the States," grins the frontman.

"And I love doing them. The space on the stage, the vastness of the crowd... It appeals to everything that I think this band can and will be about."

Do you think bigger venues beckon in the UK, too, Vic?

"I hope so," he admits. "We're doing some great, historic places on this tour, and the tickets have sold really well, so we'll see..."

Emerging victorious in beautiful old theatre venues is one thing, but PTV's ambition seems clear: to secure their legacy as not just one of the biggest bands in their scene, but as one of the biggest bands of their generation.

With that in mind, next week's jaunt signifies a lighting of the blue touchpaper for PTV – one that draws a final line under previous endeavours, albums and delays, and finally offers us a long-awaited glimpse of the all-conquering giant they look set to become in the not-too-distant future.

The man upstairs had better keep an eye out, because Vic Fuentes' gang are back, and their explosions are only going to get bigger and bolder.

**PIERCE THE VEIL PLAY READING & LEEDS FESTIVAL THIS AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND. SEE THE GIG GUIDE FOR INFO**



# SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

WITH



IF 4K-RATED NEW ALBUM MADNESS HAS MADE YOU THINK TWICE ABOUT

**SLEEPING WITH SIRENS, KELLIN QUINN IS OUT TO USE HIS UK RETURN TO SHOW YOU**

**F**or any rock fan worth their salt, the local venue is a thing of unique and absolute beauty. That rickety floorboard as you walk in; that grumpy sound guy who has been there for as long as anyone can remember; those yellowing, faded old posters on the wall from gigs gone by. These are spaces to be treasured and loved – temples in which we all bow at the altar of music. For Sleeping With Sirens' Kellin Quinn, though, his local spot was even more of a place of worship than most.

"There was this place near where I grew up called The Revolution," reminisces the Florida-born singer, in a cotton-soft drawl. "It was a church during the day, but in the evening they let kids bring in bands from all over the place, and not just Christian bands, either – punk rock stuff, too. I particularly remember going to see ['00s emo legends] Emery there and being completely blown away by them, their energy and being able to be so close to them."

"Going to those gigs and seeing those things was such a formative experience for me," continues Kellin, the enthusiasm now dripping off him. "I guess what we try to do with Sleeping With Sirens now, even though we are playing bigger venues with crowd barriers and stuff like that, is translate the energy I used to feel at those shows."

It's a translation and transition that Kellin and his band have been working particularly hard on of late – stepping into the limelight and doing so with a conscience and clarity of thought that might surprise some of their (at times vocal) naysayers.

"I think I'm in the middle of a process of realisation," nods Kellin. "I understand better than ever before that we as a band have an opportunity to say things for the 40, 50, 60 minutes that we're onstage, and we have a responsibility to say the right things. All the bands and artists I loved growing up – Rage Against The Machine, Bob Marley, Kurt Cobain – and even those bands I saw in that church who meant something to me, I feel like they all used their platform to offer a positive message. That's why they are timeless and great to me. I'm not saying we can be like that, but we owe it to both ourselves and our

fans to do the best job we can when we step out on to the stage."

**T**o fully understand the quintet's current transformative state, you have to look into what SWS once were, and how they are arguably *still* perceived in some quarters.

"It's easy to get into a rut," says Kellin. "And I think we did, to a certain extent. Growing up, there's the temptation to copy aspects of what the bands around you are doing. But I've realised that doesn't breed the true creativity I want to be a part of. We collectively made a decision with this new album [the 4K-rated



**"I'M REALISING  
THAT WE HAVE A  
RESPONSIBILITY  
TO SAY THINGS"**

**KELLIN QUINN**



Madness] to move away from that."

There's something else on Kellin's mind, too: specifically, the tendency of his band's detractors to focus on their image, and, in particular, Kellin's boyish good looks.

"Our job is music," he explains, with a hint of exasperation, of his desire not to be trapped in a group known for their pleasing aesthetics. "If it becomes all about visual, I think we're losing touch with that. Our job is to connect with people through music – nothing else."

The upshot of these realisations is that Kellin and his band are chucking the old templates which might once have governed them in the bin, no more so than in the live arena.

"I want us to be *different* every single night," offers Kellin. "I want a kid who sees us twice in

a row to get something new the second time. I don't want to be remembered as a boring band. I want this band to do things people might not expect of us, expect from me."

Give us an example, then, Kellin.

"Well, I like the spontaneity of singing a bit of Santeria by Sublime before we go into If You Can't Hang, or some a cappella of No Woman, No Cry. It adds some flair, y'know. I want to be a performer with flair..."

And so it seems that we are witnessing the all-new Sleeping With Sirens rolling off the production line. With a considerably matured new album under their belt and Kellin's personal epiphany about the duty he now has as a rockstar etched into his consciousness, things are changing – or maybe just being re-realised on a global stage.

"Listen," begins Kellin, emphasising a keenness for perspective on his band's journey to the limelight in which they now find themselves bathed in. "We spent a lot of time touring in crappy vans just like a lot of other bands do. Just because we are getting a bit of coverage now, doesn't mean we didn't go through all those things to get to where we are. And we learnt a lot from those shows in those dive bars. I see so many artists who are too reliant on their backing tracks and fancy systems these days and I never want us to become about that. I believe that you've gotta remember your roots, remember where you came from and be thankful for what you have. These days I'm very committed to that."

And just like that, Kellin lays down a universal truth about the magic of live music, whether it's performed in the cavernous venues SWS now fill, or a repurposed old church with a handful of fans in it: if the performers and the crowd both connect in the right spirit, extraordinary things are possible.

"Seeing those bands play at Revolution changed my life for the better," concludes Kellin. "If we can have that impact on just one kid, then my job will have been totally done."

Forget one kid. When Sleeping With Sirens hit our shores next week, they might just start a revolution of their own.

**SLEEPING WITH SIRENS' MADNESS IS OUT NOW**





# SIRENS

JUST HOW FAR *HE* HAS COME...

Rockstars: forever confused  
about how paper actually works

## LIFTING THE VEIL!

WHAT SECRETS HAS  
KELLIN LEARNT  
ABOUT PIERCE THE  
VEIL WHILE ON THE  
ROAD TOGETHER?

★ **THEY ARE DEMONS AT CRAZY GOLF!**  
 ★ "It was Tony [Perry, guitar] from  
 ★ PTV's birthday recently, and we  
 ★ ended up leaping over a fence  
 ★ to get into this putt-putt golf  
 ★ course. This place had a pond  
 ★ with alligators in  
 ★ it, and it got a  
 ★ bit out  
 ★ of hand!"



★ **TONY IS REALLY, REALLY GOOD WITH A RUBIK'S CUBE, TOO!**  
 ★ "The guy can seriously do one in  
 ★ about two minutes. It's insane.  
 ★ I don't even know how you do  
 ★ something like that! It's pretty  
 ★ much the  
 ★ best talent  
 ★ that I've  
 ★ ever seen!"



★ **THEY ARE ALWAYS PLAYING PARAMORE!**  
 ★ "I can't even listen to  
 ★ crushcrushcrush anymore – they  
 ★ have that song on the whole  
 ★ time! In fact, they listen to too  
 ★ much Paramore generally! I love  
 ★ Paramore, but  
 ★ those guys  
 ★ never stop  
 ★ with it!"



★ **THEY'RE SUPER-CLEAN!**  
 ★ "They're, like, one of the  
 ★ cleanest bands we've ever  
 ★ toured with! Honestly, when  
 ★ you spend weeks on the road  
 ★ with a bunch of people in quite  
 ★ confined spaces, things can get  
 ★ a bit gross, but  
 ★ they are pretty  
 ★ good at  
 ★ scrubbing up!"





# FAME HATIN' FAMILY NEGLECTIN' DRUG ABUSIN' PUNK ROCK MARTYR?

THE STORY OF **KURT COBAIN** IS ONE OF ROCK'S MOST TRAGIC AND WELL-KNOWN. OR IS IT? NEW DOCUMENTARY **MONTAGE OF HECK** WILL MAKE YOU QUESTION EVERYTHING YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW ABOUT A ROCK ICON...

**K**urt Cobain sits with his infant daughter, Frances Bean, on his lap as she's given her first haircut. The Nirvana frontman looks painfully thin and strung out on something. Even though he's holding the baby he clearly adores, he soon starts to nod off. Frances wobbles precariously, Kurt only roused by the appearance of his wife, Courtney Love, who chides him that his daughter won't want to see him like this in the future. "I'm not on drugs," he protests, indignantly, "I'm tired."

Such painfully intimate, almost intrusive moments are scattered throughout Kurt Cobain: Montage Of Heck, a new documentary about Kurt's life that uses home video and archive footage,

animation, previously unheard audio, talking head interviews and Kurt's art and journals to present perhaps the most complete portrait of the iconic rocker ever assembled.

It's the work of director Brett Morgen, previously best known for his 2012 Rolling Stones documentary Crossfire Hurricane. He spent eight years putting the documentary together – six years sorting out the legal and clearance issues, two years actual film-making – after being first approached to make the movie by Courtney in 2007. She gave Brett unrestricted access to a storage facility that contained Cobain's archives, "the largest unearthing of material since his death", that included 108 previously

unheard cassette tapes containing unreleased songs and first-person biographical testimony, as well as home movies so revealing they even shocked the hard-bitten documentary maker.

"There was one moment where I wanted to grab the phone and call [Child] Protection Services," says Brett, "even though I knew what I was looking at had happened 22 years ago. But it's not just junkiedom in that moment. What you get is the struggle: you see the love he has for his daughter, but, at the same time, that he's losing his battles with addiction. He's not just a junkie – it's so much more complicated than that."

And that, indeed, is what makes Montage Of Heck so compelling. Kurt's



**"YOU GET A DEEPER SENSE  
OF WHO KURT WAS. AND  
THE MORE YOU SEE HIM,  
THE MORE YOU LIKE HIM"**

**BRETT MORGEN**

Prepare to see Kurt  
like never before...





Home video footage paints a stark portrait of Kurt and Courtney

# "I WANTED TO MAKE A FILM ABOUT KURT'S LIFE, NOT HIS DEATH"

BRETT MORGEN



Kurt dotes over a baby Frances



Entries in Kurt's personal diaries (inset) told of his inner anguish

kill yourself  
kill yourself  
kill yourself  
kill yourself

image and persona have been preserved in aspic since he died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in April 1994; forever defined by his traumatic last few months on Earth, rather than the 27 years of living before them. *Montage Of Heck*, however, doesn't just show you the grim reality of his final days – it shines a light on his entire life. And that's why it will make you question everything you thought you knew about Kurt Cobain...

**B**efore he made his documentary, Brett Morgen didn't actually know much about its subject. He'd been a "casual" Nirvana fan, aware of the band's cultural significance and interested enough to see them live a couple of times, but he ultimately had Kurt down as a "whiny" guy overcome by punk rock guilt. As he made the film, however, a different Kurt emerged. Brett saw – and we see – Kurt as his nearest and dearest saw him: a bonnie blond kid, dressing up as Batman and pretending to be a builder (complete with hard hat) coming home from work. We see him as the kinetic force of nature of Nirvana's early gigs, seemingly on fast-forward when everyone else is in slow-mo. As a happy family man, sharing Kodak moments with Courtney and Frances just like any newlywed new parents. And while we also see him as a junkie and an unhappy megastar, the film reveals – perhaps for the first time – the person who existed before all that. "I'm well aware of how much Kurt means to people," says Brett. "The representation of Kurt was solely filtered by myself, which is a tremendous burden to bear, because you want

to get it right. You get a deeper sense of who Kurt was. And the more you get to see him, the more you like him."

Brett was helped in his mission by Frances, now 22 and a successful visual artist. She came on board as Executive Producer and it was her who persuaded many of Kurt's friends and family to contribute, including Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic and Kurt's mother (Wendy O'Connor), father (Don Cobain) and sister Kim, none of whom had been interviewed on camera before. And according to Brett, all the contributors – who also include Courtney and one of Kurt's early girlfriends, Tracy Marander – were keen for the real Kurt to come across for once.

"Kim felt there was this whole other side of her brother, that goofiness and faithfulness, that was never exposed," says Brett. "Krist showed up with a singular focus on Kurt as a creative force. Nobody likes reliving this, it's very traumatic. All of the participants are haunted in a way, because they would have been at Kurt's side regardless of whether he was a rockstar or a janitor or a middle school art teacher."

Which is not to say all of them like how Kurt is portrayed in the movie. Brett was determined to present an "unflinching view" of Kurt, including an animated sequence featuring some grim audio of Kurt describing his attempt to lose his virginity to a girl with borderline learning difficulties. The subsequent humiliation when his school friends find out about the incident leads him to attempt suicide on a train track. But was there anything he left out to protect anyone's feelings?

"Nothing," Brett says. "What else could there be? What could be more haunting than to see a father who clearly loves their child nodding off, about to drop this infant on the ground? I said to Kurt's mother, 'There are things in this film that Kurt wouldn't want you to see and that no mother should have to see.' But I wasn't trying to create the mother's portrait of Kurt. A film on Kurt Cobain should be honest above all else."

**W**hat is missing from the film are a couple of notable players in Kurt's story. There's no Tobi Vail, the Bikini Kill drummer who inspired many of the songs on *Nevermind*. And there's no Dave Grohl, the man who most obviously continues Nirvana's musical legacy in the Foo Fighters.

"These are the most primal relationships that extended across many, many years or a lifetime," Brett says of those that were interviewed. "The people who I selected are best suited to represent Kurt the man as opposed to Kurt the icon. That's not a slight to anyone else that he played music with. It just means that Krist, who was from Aberdeen, who was with Kurt from the beginning of the band to the end, is best suited to represent that side of Kurt's story."

Given that it's been the most endlessly analysed part of his story, it also seems curious that the film ends with Kurt's overdose in Rome in March 1994, rather than his death in Seattle a month later. In fact, Brett believes that some of the material he unearthed may shine new light upon Kurt's suicide, usually attributed to his inability to handle fame. In the film, Courtney suggests Kurt's Rome overdose was a response to her "thinking about" (but not actually) cheating on him, something that may have triggered the singer's lifelong fear of humiliation.

"If Kurt didn't want to be in the band, he'd have quit the band," says Brett. "Quitting wasn't a problem for Kurt, but humiliation and ridicule was. Go back to the story of Kurt on the train tracks and he discusses how he didn't want to live any more. I believe he's telling us why he left in the end."

"I didn't want to make a movie about death," he continues. "I wanted to make a movie about his life. The movie had come full circle and concluded itself. All that was left was innuendo and gossip."

Much of that innuendo, of course, has been aimed at Courtney over the years. But Brett maintains Courtney never once interfered with



# THE KURT LOCKER



## THE 10 MOST AMAZING REVELATIONS ON KURT COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK

### 1 KURT WAS A CUTE KID

Kurt was a handsome adult, even if he often tried to hide it. But as a kid, he was adorable. Home video footage depicts him as a beaming blond cherub, happy to be centre of attention at family parties and crackling with carefree energy. That we know how the story ends makes this footage even more heartbreaking.



A young Kurt opens a fitting present...

### 7 THERE'S MORE UNRELEASED NIRVANA MATERIAL THAN ANYONE THOUGHT

Alongside familiar footage from Reading and MTV Unplugged, MOH's score seethes with unreleased music from Kurt's personal tapes, including a solo version of The Beatles' 'And I Love Her' no-one had ever heard before.

### 8 KURT AND COURTNEY WERE HAPPIER THAN YOU THOUGHT

They were cast as a volatile couple in the media, but MOH depicts Kurt and Courtney as rather sweet; canoodling half-naked, goofing around and, at least for a while, blissfully content in their coupledom. "I feel kinda... happy right now," says Courtney at one point, seemingly as surprised as anyone.

### 9 KURT COULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT DAD

Drugs got the better of him in the end, but plenty of footage depicts Kurt as a doting father, singing Mah Na Mah Na and trying to make Frances Bean giggle. According to Brett Morgen, Frances had never seen many of the tapes before and found watching them "liberating".

### 10 KURT'S MOTHER FORESAW HER SON'S FATE

Kurt might not have known Nevermind was going to become one of the biggest albums ever, but his mother did. She recounts the time Kurt played her the prerelease album and she cried, "not out of happiness, but fear." "You'd better buckle up," she warned him, "cause you are not ready for this." Tragically, she was right.

### 5 KURT WAS OBSESSED WITH GUNS N' ROSES...

Axl Rose was a Nirvana fan, trying to take the band out on tour and attempting to buddy up with Kurt at awards dos. Kurt always publicly rebuffed such advances. Yet the constant references to GN'R in Kurt and Courtney's home video tapes suggests he was more interested than he let on, at one point even moaning: "If I wasn't so needle sick, I'd be on tour with Guns N' Roses right now."



### 6...AND KURT WAS OBSESSED WITH HIS MEDIA PROFILE

They moaned publicly about doing interviews but, privately, grunge's golden couple were clearly reading their own press. Krist Novoselic testifies to Kurt's hatred of bad reviews, while conversations are peppered with references to Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair and Sassy magazine. At one point, Kurt even jokily reassures his wife she isn't "the most hated woman in America". "You're tied with Roseanne Barr," he deadpans.



### 2 KURT FIRST ATTEMPTED SUICIDE AS A TEENAGER

Kurt had often talked about feeling suicidal before the Rome incident. But Montage Of Heck features Kurt talking about his first attempt to take his own life as a teenager. Humiliated after his friends mocked his attempt to lose his virginity, he lay on the railtrack and waited for the end... Only for the train to pass on the other track.

### 3 FAMILY WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO KURT

In the film, family members talk of the great shame Kurt felt at his parents' divorce, and the upset he felt when shunted round various relatives' homes as a teenager. "I don't know how anybody deals with having your whole family reject you," his stepmother, Jenny Cobain, comments at one point. His relationship with Courtney and the birth of Frances were his attempt to build a solid family unit where his childhood one had failed – and when that, too, was threatened, Kurt couldn't handle it.

### 4 KURT WANTED TO BE SUCCESSFUL

Conventional wisdom – and Kurt's own suicide note – says the singer in the world's biggest rock band hated fame. But testimony from his friends, particularly early girlfriend Tracy Marander, and the meticulous planning evident in his journals, shows he was actually always hugely ambitious.



The funny, loving side of Kurt and Courtney's relationship is shown, too



the production or even asked him what was in the film, only seeing it – at his insistence – three days before the documentary's premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January, when it was too late to make any changes.

In the film, Courtney also admits to taking heroin while pregnant with Frances. Yet she still comes across in a more positive light than in many tellings of Kurt's story, the home movie footage of her and Kurt showing a spark, joyful couple far removed from their '90s public image as hen-pecked, depressed husband and gold-digging, ball-busting bride.

"Some of those scenes are like watching I Love Lucy," Brett says. "It's like a sitcom, they're so witty and funny. It's unfiltered Kurt and Courtney – two young people with a fiery, passionate love that only exists in your 20s. It was important that we experienced Courtney the way Kurt experienced her, as opposed to the way the public experienced her."

But if the documentary humanises Courtney, that goes double for Kurt. Even hardcore Nirvana fans are likely to leave with a much greater sense of him as a son, a husband and a father, as well as perhaps the most relentlessly creative musician of his time. And it's the latter that Brett hopes will ultimately become the legacy of the film.

"He was a real artist," says Brett. "He achieved what all artists dream of, except he did it on a massive scale. You don't walk away [from the film] thinking, 'This is a guy who's just putting on a show and posing.' He's the real deal."

**KURT COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK IS IN CINEMAS FROM APRIL 10**



Kurt is seen playing with cats throughout Montage Of Heck



KERRANG!

# Slam Dunk

— 20 FESTIVAL 15 —

## YOU ME AT SIX

TAKING BACK SUNDAY architects don broco

LOWER THAN ATLANTIS WHILE SHE SLEEPS ReelBitchFish

THE WONDER YEARS **NECK DEEP** FINCH **BRONX**

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COMEBACK KID **EMMURE** **THE BROTHERS** **MARIA CHIELE** **BRONX** **SICK TO YOUR GUNS**

PVRIS SET IT OFF BEARTOOTH **FIREWORKS** TRANSIT **Such Gold** **BANE**

**Lightyear** **ESD** **PATENT PENDING** DEEZ NUTS TRVSH TALK MOOSE BLOOD

**ALOSS WORDS** **ROOM** KNUCKLE PUCK BEING AS AN OCEAN **the color moral** THIS WILD LIFE AS IT IS **SEAWAY**

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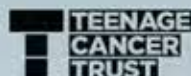
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# KERRANG!

NEW FOUND GLORY







PHOTO: ANDREW LIPOVSKY

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 TUE 30 NEWCASTLE O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY

**JULY**

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 FRI 03 LEEDS O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY **SOLD OUT**  
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 SAT 25 APRIL LIVERPOOL O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY2  
 SUN 26 APRIL BIRMINGHAM O<sub>2</sub> ACADEMY2  
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# IN BLOOM

ONCE UPON A TIME, YOU'D HAVE BEEN MORE LIKELY TO FIND JOSH MCKEOWN HIDING SILENTLY IN A CORNER THAN SCREAMING ONSTAGE. TOM DOYLE FINDS OUT HOW HE – AND **PALM READER** – ARE BLOSSOMING INTO BRITISH HARDCORE'S GREAT NEW HOPE...

**T**he saying, as it goes, is that you should always keep a close eye on the shy, quiet ones. It's a truism that Palm Reader vocalist Josh McKeown knows all too well.

"God, I was quiet as fuck when I was a kid," laughs the frontman through grinning teeth as K! catches up with him in a west London pub.

"I was always the one who was happy to sit back and let other people do their thing. I observed a lot, watched what other people were doing and saying. I never felt like I had to be the centre of things; I was never the first to speak up."

It's a sentiment that today might seem at odds with the nature of 25-year-old Josh's band – all visceral anger and bruisingly exorcistic lyrics – and his role as its roaring mouthpiece. But dig deeper and things begin to make more sense.

"I remember the first time I picked up a microphone, thinking, 'I have a voice now,'" recalls Josh. "I first sang in front of people at a party for my dad. Me and a couple of others got up and did a few covers and it was a real lightbulb moment. Like, 'I can do this.'"

**"THE FIRST TIME I PICKED UP A MIC, I THOUGHT, 'I HAVE A VOICE NOW'"**

**JOSH MCKEOWN**

"Slowly I started writing lyrics and saw that it was a chance for me to express things that I just didn't in my everyday social life when I was a kid. I think the fact that I spent so long soaking up what everyone else did around me like a sponge gave me plenty to talk up about when it came to putting pen to paper."

Talk up Josh has. With the imminent release of his band's furious, gut-swelling second album, *Beside The Ones We Love*, this once-quiet kid from Surrey is grabbing the reins and telling the stories he wants to see told on his terms, in his own words.

"A lot of the songs on the album are about the idea of voicelessness, I guess," he admits. "Not all of them are personal things, but, in the world

today, so many people are left with no outlet, whether that's in the way our fucked financial systems are run, or something at a broader level. For me, it's always been about bringing up topics of conversation for people to talk about, to get subjects like these out in the open rather than simply ignored."

**A**s he waxes lyrical about the value of music not just in his life, but as a force for existential good, the word that tumbles from Josh McKeown's mouth more than any other is 'honesty'.

"I don't really care about genre," he offers. "I've never been that guy with a great knowledge of hardcore or metal or anything like that. In fact, the first thing I ever really got into was soul and Motown. It's honest music, it comes from a very pure place, and to me that's the most crucial aspect. I want to be in an honest band and, for us, that's simply writing songs and playing them as hard as we can, that's all there is to it."

In truth, it was that spirit of integrity that took Josh from meek kid to the frontman who stands before us today.

"It was a slow process for me," he admits. "The first band I was ever in – and I've only ever been in two, including Palm Reader – I



You can keep your mic, Josh – guitarist Andy Gillan doesn't even need one, the show-off



## THE NEW WAVE OF HEAVY?

A FEW WEEKS AGO, IN K1558 (RIGHT), ARCHITECTS' SAM CARTER ARGUED THAT THE NEXT GENERATION OF BRITISH BANDS AREN'T AS INTERESTED IN THE HEAVIER SIDE OF THINGS AS THEY ONCE WERE. JOSH, HOWEVER, HAS HIS OWN IDEAS...

JOSH SAYS: "I can understand what Sam means, but I do think there are a lot of heavy bands coming through – whether or not they are doing the greatest things, though, is another matter! The thing really these days, in my opinion, is that the kids who are playing pop-punk or more radio-friendly rock are much more focused on the idea of 'being in a band' and achieving some recognition. I think the heavy groups just don't care about that so much and so they are more under the radar. Put it like this, we played with a band the other day who had all these amazing one-minute-long songs – they were awesome and no-one had ever heard of them before, and they didn't care at all. It was brilliant. It's not all about pushing merch and flogging CDs, y'know!"



was doing proper singing, but I felt like I wasn't really connecting with people. Even though I was quieter, I was already becoming quite direct in my views, and I suppose the shouting came from wanting to give a more head-on approach. As soon as I started doing that, people seemed to start listening, I finally had this way of linking with others that just... worked."

So, does Josh ever look back at the small, wide-eyed kid from school and wonder how he ended up yelling his lungs up at the front of one of Britain's most chaotically brilliant bands?

"Sometimes," he ponders. "I think maybe my parents do. They've always been incredibly supportive of everything I've done, but I remember dad coming to a show and yelling from the back of the room between songs, 'Whatever happened to all that Stevie Wonder we used to play you?!' But it's still there in me, all those things are, they all contribute."

Arrow-straight honesty, though, just like childhood shyness, can have its downsides.

"As a band, I feel like we don't really fit in anywhere," shrugs Josh. "We play with a lot of bands in the 'hardcore' scene where having the right pair of trainers is the most important thing, and that just isn't what we're about. We aren't a cool band and we never have been. I think that's left us out on a limb at times in our history."

So, the big question, then: has there ever been a temptation for Palm Reader to sell a little of their souls, get some snazzy haircuts and try and... well... be a bit less honest about themselves?

"Oh, of course! There always is!" laughs Josh.

"And, to some extent, you have to play some aspects of the game to survive as a band. But I think you can tell when someone is being disingenuous about what they're doing. Just be open about what you're doing and why."

"In a way it probably goes back to being in the background and observing others so intently as a kid," concludes Josh. "I feel like I can always spot a fraud, and I hate liars. This music is the opportunity for me to get across the truth of what I feel and how I think and hopefully connect with others through that. Why would I give up a chance to do that in a real, meaningful way just to fit in a little better?"

But fit in or not, Josh and Palm Reader are making the kind of soul-emboldening, life-affirming noise you'd have to be either deaf or stupid to ignore.

Always pay attention to the quiet ones – they usually end up screaming the loudest.

Come on, Josh – Mother's Day was last week

PALM READER'S BESIDE THE ONES WE LOVE IS OUT ON APRIL 6 VIA IN AT THE DEEP END



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# DOWN UNDER

**THERE'S A REVOLUTION HAPPENING... ALBEIT 10,000 MILES FROM YOUR DOORSTEP. AUSTRALIA IS A HOTBED OF SNAKES, SHARKS AND, NOW, THE BEST NEW BANDS IN THE WORLD. JAMES HICKIE FINDS OUT WHAT THEY'RE PUTTING IN THE WATER DOWN UNDER...**

**T**here was a telling moment in K!s AC/DC cover feature [K11545] last year in which legendary guitarist Angus Young gave his opinion on the state of modern rock'n'roll.

"I see it as healthy," enthused the diminutive axeman. "There's newer stuff coming through. I really like Airbourne."

While it's undoubtedly amusing that Acca Dacca should cite a band that's so obviously one of their musical offspring as hopefuls for the future, it's also reflective of a blinkered view of the heavier end of the Aussie music spectrum – namely, that it's limited to the retro-rock stylings of the likes of Airbourne, Wolfmother, Silverchair and The Vines.

Fear not, though, because the noise currently coming out of Australia right now is seismic enough to shake the foundations of scenes from London to Los Angeles. And this new wave of bands is hell-bent on proving that there's more to Antipodean efforts than 4/4 beats, bluesy riffs and odes to sizeable 'Sheilas' called Rosie.

We've got the progressive inventiveness of Northlane; the blockbusting metalcore of The Amity Affliction and In Hearts Wake; the 'Unfuckwithable' Deez Nuts; and Hellions, who are rewriting hardcore's blueprints. Throw into the mix Parkway Drive and Tonight Alive – established stars set only to further explode in 2015 – and you've the most exciting rock hotbed since the sun set on, er, the Sunset Strip's glory days.

Not that this new school aren't proud of the old guard, of course.

"I think it's great to be known as a country who birthed the best band in history," says Ahren Stringer, vocalist/bassist for Queensland

crew The Amity Affliction. "But I think it's definitely sent shock waves through America and Europe that there are so many great Australian metal bands on the rise."

"I think it's taken a while for people to realise that Australia isn't just about AC/DC and Crocodile Dundee," jokes Ben Nairne, guitarist for Byron Bay five-piece In Hearts Wake. "Although our population is quite small in comparison to other countries, we're putting out quality music from extremely hard-working bands and are up to date with what's happening in the music scene from around the world."

So, where has this new wave of bands come from, then?

"It's one of those things where, as soon as you're exposed to something new and something interesting, you want to find more of it," says Winston McCall, frontman of Byron Bay bruisers Parkway Drive. In the case of this burgeoning Aussie invasion, it was the pioneering example provided by his band that was the catalyst for the movement.

"The biggest gift that Parkway Drive have given Australian music is the inspiration that is their work ethic," says Josh Smith, guitarist for Sydney band Northlane.

"No-one before them in the 'scene' really had a record that was considered world-class," says Ahren. "After people saw Parkway Drive, the bar was raised so high

that everyone else kind of knew that that was what you had to do to make it big – and knowing it could be done really made everyone want it more."

Formed in 2002, Parkway Drive took their name from the street on which they originally started practising as a band, and the next year released a split EP with I Killed The Prom Queen – another band regularly cited as lynchpins of the scene, featuring one-time member of Bring Me The Horizon and Bleeding Through Jona

Weinhofen. Parkway's next EP, Don't Close Your Eyes, followed in 2004, before a run of critically acclaimed albums – Killing With A Smile (2005), Horizons (2007), Deep Blue (2010) and Atlas (2012) – supported by relentless touring both home and abroad.

"Australian bands definitely have a uniqueness to them," says frontman Winston McCall. "Making this kind of music isn't done for any other reason apart

from the enjoyment of doing it. People aren't making these bands because there's some commercial success behind it. There's no possibility of us being played on the radio, being on some music TV show [in Australia] or selling a billion records. We do it because we like making music, and, as a result, you see passion, not a bunch of people trying a sound to try and crack some kind of fame."

**L**ife Down Under might be warmer, then, but it's certainly tougher, too.

"Aussie bands have to work five times harder to build a name," says JJ Peters,

**"AUSTRALIA QUICKLY WEEDS OUT THE WEAK"**

**AHREN STRINGER**

AIR MAIL





# PUTTING AUSTRALIA ON THE MAP

YOUR TRAVEL GUIDE TO DOWN UNDER, BAND BY BAND!  
(SPOILER ALERT: STAY TOWARDS THE EAST, EH?)

frontman for Melbourne mob Deez Nuts. "They're competing with international acts that are already 'cool' out the gate because they're not Australian, so aren't subjected to tall poppy syndrome [fan resentment because of a band's achievements]. Plus, you have to traverse a huge continent with only a few major cities."

"Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth are all pretty spread out," says Luke Logemann, Head Of Recorded Music at Melbourne-based record label UNFD and manager of Northlane, In Hearts Wake and Deez Nuts. "I mean, it takes two days to drive from Perth to the nearest big city [Adelaide, a bum-numbing 1,307 miles away], and everything else is at least 10 hours away. The other thing is, with just five major cities, you can't just tour the same places every month for a year or you'll wear people out. We try and get creative and tour lots of regional towns to mix it up a bit."

And, as if that didn't make things hard enough, there's also the small matter of just how these bands are supposed to travel the near-three-million square miles of their great nation. As it turns out, when it comes to securing transportation, being a musician definitely doesn't count in your favour.

"A long time ago, the car hire companies cottoned on to the fact that bands were renting their cars and basically driving them into the ground," says Winston. "So they started charging a hell of a lot of money and made it very difficult for touring bands."

As a result, bands have had to work together to tour more smartly, sharing backlines, vans and, in some cases, even band members.

"We did a regional tour with In Hearts Wake once," says Josh Smith. "On one particular day, Caleb [Burton], their drummer [at the time], dislocated his shoulder in the surf, so our drummer played their set with them that night. He stepped up there and had a crack!"

For a scene that's largely defined by the ferocity of its output, it also seems bound by an unbreakable sense of fraternity. It's not just that it's totally free from the sort of backbiting and infighting that can tear bands apart, these acts are actively helping one another to take the next step onwards and upwards.

"Every opportunity that's come about for one Australian band to help another, they have," says Winston, who grew up in a Byron Bay scene that commands a devotion that's seen it sport its own line of merch, as if it were a band itself. "From the word go, when we started playing venues that were bigger than what we'd played before, we'd take Australian bands out with us [Parkway Drive's tours have included support slots from I Killed



The Prom Queen and Northlane]. Bands do it for one another to push each other – in fact, I've never seen a band not help one another out."

While these impediments are a challenge for bands, for In Hearts Wake guitarist Ben Nairne, this environment of 'survival of the fittest' does have a positive effect. "It acts as a filter and you only see bands who are really passionate about touring the country," he says.

And what happens if these bands manage to make it though that filter?

"Even if we pass that test, we then have to conquer the rest of the world from a remote location," laughs Deez Nuts' JJ Peters.

He's not wrong, and that's when things start to get costly.

"What people don't realise is that it costs £12,000 to £15,000 just for Australian bands to fly to Europe or North America to start their tour," says UNFD's Luke Logemann. "U.S. visas cost a few grand on top of that, excess baggage for equipment can cost thousands, and then you need to hire gear because you can't fly a drum kit over – so all that adds up."

"To put it in perspective, any band in Britain can just hop in a van and Europe is their oyster," says Northlane guitarist Josh Smith.

"As a result, only the truly passionate, strong-willed bands make it to the world stage," says The Amity Affliction guitarist Ahren Stringer. "It weeds out the weak very quickly."

Thankfully for these bands, in recent years that world stage has become a more manageably conquerable place thanks to advances in technology.

"We started touring overseas right at the



**"I'VE NEVER NOT SEEN AUSTRALIAN BANDS HELP EACH OTHER OUT"**

**WINSTON MCCALL**

Putting another shrimp on the barbie: Parkway Drive's Winston McCall

BY AIR MAIL





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"Bonzer!": Northlane's Marcus Bridge

Put another surfer on the barbie, mate!

"Gee whiz!": Tonight Alive

"Crikey!": Hellions

**1 PARKWAY DRIVE**  
FROM: Byron Bay, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2002  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Given how big they've got here (they headlined Warped Tour UK in 2013), the chances are you've heard Parkway before. If not, expect accomplished and inventive metalcore that'll make you want to smash through to the southern hemisphere with your bare hands.  
LATEST ALBUM: Atlas (2012)

**2 NORTHLANE**  
FROM: Sydney, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2009  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Metalcore infused with a dose of mind-bending prog. Expect time changes, And beatdowns. And time-changing beatdowns.  
LATEST ALBUM: Singularity (2013)

**3 THE AMITY AFFLICTION**  
FROM: Gympie, Queensland  
FORMED: 2003  
WHAT DO YOU SOUND LIKE?: Metal(core) Up Your Ass, delivered by one of the genre's most dynamic front duos.  
LATEST ALBUM: Let The Ocean Take Me (2014)

**4 IN HEARTS WAKE**  
FROM: Byron Bay, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2006  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Metalcore on an epic scale, sporting hooks so sizeable you could hang a cruise liner from them.  
LATEST ALBUM: Earthwalker (2014)

**5 DEEZ NUTS**  
FROM: Melbourne, Victoria  
FORMED: 2007  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Hip-hop inspired hardcore punk that documents hard living (at lightning speeds).  
LATEST ALBUM: Bout It! (2013)

**6 THY ART IS MURDER**  
FROM: Sydney, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2006  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Like all good deathcore should: absolutely brutal – and then some. Heavy as a crate of Castlemaine XXXX.  
LATEST ALBUM: Hate (2012)

**7 HELLIONS**  
FROM: Sydney, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2013  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: High-energy, no-nonsense hardcore meets the playfulness of early-day MCR.  
LATEST ALBUM: Indian Summer (2015)

**8 I KILLED THE PROM QUEEN**  
FROM: Adelaide, South Australia  
FORMED: 2000  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: An orgy of hardcore and metal, featuring more breakdowns than a second-hand car rally.  
LATEST ALBUM: Beloved (2014)

**9 TONIGHT ALIVE**  
FROM: Sydney, New South Wales  
FORMED: 2008  
WHAT DO THEY SOUND LIKE?: Pop-punk tinged emotional rock, led, in Jenna McDougall, by a force of nature.  
LATEST ALBUM: The Other Side (2013)

point when social media took off, so it gave people access to these other bands," says Winston. "Within the space of two of our tours, attitudes went from, 'Wow, Australian bands – that's a novelty!' to kids coming up to us and saying, 'Have you heard of this band? Have you played with this band?' – some of which are from in the middle of nowhere and have only been around about six months."

Thanks to this greater awareness and appetite for a scene that would have once remained unknown on an international scale, there's more reason for bands to swallow these costs in order to play to audiences they know are eager to hear them.

"We've surpassed the barriers for what I saw as possible for heavy music in this country," says Winston. "I never could have imagined that we'd be touring with bands from our own hometown in another country – it's amazing." Despite his enthusiasm, the frontman is keen to keep things in perspective. "It's still a very underground culture. The fact that we have [touring Australian festival] Soundwave becoming world famous now gives the impression that this is a huge scene and that it's common knowledge that these bands exist. That's not the case. All of these shows are still run within a very tightknit community."

Those who have managed to succeed are also keen to point out another misconception – that while dogged determination certainly plays a big part in who makes it and who doesn't, quality remains as important as ever.

"The only problem that ever really held us back was that we weren't making good enough music," says Ahren Stringer, guitarist for The Amity Affliction.

It's taken Parkway Drive and The Amity Affliction 13 years and 11 years respectively to get to where they are today, and there's no doubt that their trial-and-error endeavours have gone some way to making it easier for the next generation of bands to walk through the door that's been opened for them.

"They [new bands] are growing a little quicker, spreading the word and finding new and innovative ways to make things work," says Luke Logemann.

"Just like our predecessors carved out the touring routes and built the scene to open the door for us, I'd like to think we've contributed in some way to the world scale," says Deez Nuts frontman JJ Peters. "Each generation brightens the flame and passes the torch."

And so, 2015 looks set to be the year that these hardworking thunderers from Down Under really catch fire and are recognised as the most promising bands out there – not just in Australia, but on a global scale. Riipper!

**PARKWAY DRIVE, NORTHLANE AND IN HEARTS WAKE – WHO RELEASE NEW ALBUM SKYDANCER ON MAY 4 – ALL PLAY DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL THIS YEAR. THE AMITY AFFLICTION TOUR WITH OF MICE & MEN THIS WEEK. DEEZ NUTS' FOURTH ALBUM, WORD IS BOND, IS OUT APRIL 27**



# THE SONGS THAT SAVED MY LIFE

WE OFTEN FIND OURSELVES WONDERING, WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE A ROCKSTAR CRY? NOT THAT WE'D WANT TO UPSET ANYONE, OF COURSE, BUT SAM CARTER KINDLY FILLS US IN...

THIS WEEK: SAM CARTER, ARCHITECTS



## THE SONG THAT MAKES ME THINK OF HOME IS...

**COMIN' HOME,  
CITY AND COLOUR**

"It's a straightforward one. In the song, he talks about all these places he's been on tour, and we've been to all the same places, so it's quite relevant. Being in a band's the best job in the world. We get to play music every day in these amazing places but there's nothing wrong with saying that you miss home sometimes. Everyone misses their family and friends and girlfriends, and it is hard being away from people you love for long stretches of time."

**FIND IT:** Sometimes (2005)



## THE SONG I'D LIKE TO COVER IS...

**ROYAL,  
DEFTONES**

"I'm a huge Deftones fan and this is just such a great song. Every record they've released has been sick but, for some reason, I didn't really get into [2006 album] Saturday Night Wrist. They came back with Diamond Eyes and it was just like, 'Yeah!' This song is really well-written. I would just love to have Architects do a cover of it, we'd do a good job."

**FIND IT:** Diamond Eyes (2010)



## THE SONG I WISH I HADN'T RECORDED IS...

**HEARTBURN,  
ARCHITECTS**

"It's just a really shit song, it's crap, I don't know

what we were thinking (laughs). Everything about it is horrible. It's so cringey. It was never meant to come out like that, but somewhere along the line it got lost between everybody pulling in different directions. We haven't played it in about five years – we never will, even though people still ask for it. Even if we did that thing where bands play an album in full, we'd leave Heartburn out."

**FIND IT:** The Here And Now (2011)

song was the one that made me want to go and actually get a drum kit. I played drums in five or six different bands but I was an obnoxious drummer – I just wanted to be at the front the whole time, showing off. There was one band I was singing in to get it out of my system and Architects saw me in that band, which is how I ended up joining them as a frontman and throwing my drumsticks away."

**FIND IT:** Enema Of The State (1999)



## THE SONG THAT MADE ME WANT TO BE A MUSICIAN WAS...

**ALL THE SMALL THINGS,  
BLINK-182**

"I remember seeing Travis Barker playing the drums, covered in tattoos, and as a kid I thought he was so cool. I had a pair of drumsticks and I used to sit and bash away on the end of my bed, but this

## THE SONG WITH THE GREATEST LYRICS IS...

**EVERLONG,  
FOO FIGHTERS**

"It's a nice romantic song and it's hard to do that kind of song without sounding cheesy. The Foo's just pull it off so well. You can play that song in any rock club and you'll have hairy dudes with tattoos singing along to what is

essentially a love song."

**FIND IT:** The Colour And The Shape (1997)

## THE SONG I WANT TO BE REMEMBERED FOR IS...

**DEVIL'S ISLAND,  
ARCHITECTS**

"I really like this song and it represents a really cool turning point for our band. Everything we were writing about changed then and our direction started going upwards. We'd come out of a bit of a slump with The Here And Now and we kinda came back with this heavier sound. It saw us find our feet and really nail what we're good at."

**FIND IT:** Daybreaker (2012)

## THE SONG YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT TO FIND ON MY IPOD IS...

**GIMME CHOCOLATE!!,  
BABYMETAL**

"I know a lot of people are dismissive, but I think BABYMETAL are awesome! Me and Jason [Aalon Butler] from letlive. listen to them a lot. In fact, it's his fault that I like them so much. He introduced me to them, so I'll blame him for ruining my credibility. It's strange because in Japan they're seen as a pop band but the guys in the masks are insane musicians."

**FIND IT:** BABYMETAL (2014)

## THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY IS...

**WHERE DID YOU SLEEP LAST  
NIGHT,  
NIRVANA**

"There's a lot of songs that make me cry because I'm





# HAT

# E...

## THE WORST SONG EVER IS... SHE LOOKS SO PERFECT, 5 SECONDS OF SUMMER

"That 'American Apparel underwear' song by 5 Seconds Of Summer makes me want to smash my head against a fucking brick wall. I get it, cool, they play their own instruments, but they've got stylists with them, they've got people doing their hair and they've got a music video where they're plugging a corporation in the chorus. What the fuck has happened to the world? Don't get me wrong, I like One Direction. I've no problem with pop music, but 5 Seconds Of Summer are masquerading as something more credible."



pretty soft, but this whole Unplugged album *really* gets me. The last scream on this song is so haunting. I think it's the last thing he tracked and you can almost hear all of Kurt's pain in that song. He hits this note that turns into a scream, it gives me the shivers every single time!"

**FIND IT:** MTV Unplugged In New York (1994)

## THE SONG THAT MAKES ME WANT TO STAGE-DIVE IS...

**WAKE THE DEAD,  
COMEBACK KID**

"This reminds me of a time when we toured in Europe with Comeback Kid, Bane and Misery Signals. Every night we'd play then we'd pack away all our stuff, and when Comeback Kid came on, the whole room just went off. We were all stage-diving like idiots. A couple of drinks at the side of the stage then it was, 'Right, let's go!' I'd go with anything from Wake The Dead, but the title track is one of the best hardcore songs ever."

**FIND IT:** Wake The Dead (2005)



## THE SONG THAT'S HARDEST TO PLAY IS...

**BLEED,  
MESHUGGAH**

"This is just the most insane fucking song ever. The kick drums at the start are insane, the guitar parts are mental and even the vocals go to places I can't get my head around. They're an amazing band and I've been lucky enough to see them a few times. They're the tightest, hardest band ever. They've been going since before I was born and they're still putting everyone else to shame, so you've got to respect that."

**FIND IT:** obZen (2008)





# ANATOMY OF A ROCKSTAR

## JAY BUCHANAN, RIVAL SONS

WHEN RIVAL SONS AREN'T  
CONJURING RIFFS, THEIR FRONTMAN'S  
COOKING UP HIS OWN HOT SAUCE...

### WHEN MY FAMILY GETS TOGETHER...

"We have a big family jam. We just did it a few weekends ago, actually, when we threw a surprise birthday party for my mother, and everybody jammed and had a great time. We have other people that come over – family friends for the most part who are also musicians and come from musical families like mine. Regular old rhythm'n'blues seems to be the music everyone knows how to play!"

### MY ARTISTIC EXPRESSION AWAY FROM MUSIC IS...

"I love graphic art. I handle our merch, so that's sort of a vocational pleasure, but I do enjoy drawing. I'm a horrible painter, though. A lot of it is for the band, so I don't always have the time or energy to draw just for myself. When it comes to our album covers, we'll commission artists who are much more skilled than I am!"

### THE THING I ALWAYS CARRY IS...

"I always have a notebook to hand. In my study I have stacks and stacks of old notebooks and songwriting journals. I'm constantly writing – not always for the band, but just writing as a form of exercise and because it feels good. I am a songwriter, and I've been a songwriter for a long time. I dedicated my life to this from a very young age. And songwriting is a very unique puzzle that you have to put together."

### THE THING THAT MAKES ME LAUGH THE HARDEST IS...

"I love Monty Python, man. The scene in [1983's] *The Meaning Of Life* where the man is just devouring so much food that he bursts! A lot of Python stuff is pretty macabre, but then it can just be plain silly as well. I was fortunate enough to meet Eric Idle once. That was a big one for me."

"I HAVE NO IDEA  
HOW MANY  
DIFFERENT  
INSTRUMENTS  
I CAN PLAY!"

### THE RECORD THAT HAD THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON ME WAS...

"I'd have to go back to my parents' record collection, because when you're that young, you kind of have to rely on whatever's lying around the house. There was a lot of blues but I remember a copy of Joni Mitchell's early record *Clouds* [1969]. That had a huge influence on me because my mother would sing those songs as well."

### MY GREATEST CULINARY SKILL IS...

"I've been a hot-sauce maker and aficionado since I was a kid, and anyone who knows me knows that I make mean hot sauces. Being from California, I'm your typical vegetarian yoga freak. Finding vegetarian food isn't always easy on tour, but as long as I'm able to find a jacket potato and salad – something light – I'm happy. Playing a show is like running a race, and I have to be completely empty!"

### THE BEST ADVICE I COULD GIVE TO A YOUNG BAND IS...

"Be diligent and work every day towards improving your skill set. I think laziness and apathy can set in if you don't get immediate success, but you've got to put in your 10,000 hours. The advent of reality TV or internet-ready instant fame has changed the perception of what paying your dues means, but to be successful and maintain that success, you still have to work hard. In this band we've put in the time since we were kids, busking at coffee shops or slogging it out in the van."

### I'D DESCRIBE MY STYLE AS...

"I'd say that I'm a flamboyant character. I think that was born from being an artist my whole life. You have to develop a thick skin and set yourself apart, because you're constantly fighting the mundane and the average. You're running as quickly as you can away from the average. You're marking yourself as different. Any flamboyance I have is part of me, but it's a carry-over from those hard years being a struggling artist."

### MY MOST TREASURED GUITAR IS...

"I have a pretty extensive guitar collection, but my most treasured instrument is probably my Gibson ES-335. It's a '66 and I love it. It was passed down from my father to me, so there's an emotional connection. I also play bass, tenor guitar, mandolins – anything with strings. I've been playing guitar since I was a child, but I also play harmonica, and I have a drum kit. Come to think of it, I have no idea how many different instruments I can play."

### THE WAY I KEEP FIT IS...

"I love to ride my bike. Typically, I'll do it every day when I'm home. I like to go for an evening ride and just crank out 16 or 20 miles because it leaves me with my thoughts. The day can be very busy with my kids and all of the business at hand. Going on a ride definitely helps with the meditative process – and, of course, it's a good way of keeping fit."





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UNEARTH DEFEATER MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK  
COMEBACK KID THROWDOWN AGAINST ME! DIESEL BOY THE GHOST INSIDE  
KNAPSACK GOOD RIDDANCE MINERAL OFF! THE DWARVES SUICIDE SILENCE  
COLD WORLD TITLE FIGHT BANE TRASH TALK AS FRIENDS RUST BASEMENT  
EMMURE MAKE DO & MEND BANNER PILOT SUCH GOLD STICK TO YOUR GUNS  
MASKED INTRUDER THE REAL MCKENZIES NO TURNING BACK FRENZAL RHOMB TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET  
WHILE SHE SLEEPS CEREMONY OFF WITH THEIR HEADS THE SMITH STREET BAND THE SWELLERS  
PSYCHO 44 TURBOWOLF WHITECHAPEL REIGN SUPREME TURNSTILE IRON REAGAN OBEY THE BRAVE  
TIMESHARES SET IT OFF THE EARLY NOVEMBER YOU BLEW IT! COUNTERPUNCH DIRECT HIT!  
YOUR HIGHNESS THE HOLY MESS CARNIFEX CANCER BATS FRNKIERO AND THE CELLABRATION F.O.D.  
OBLITERATIONS THE DEAF JOYCE MANOR LOVE ZOMBIES THE INTERRUPTERS THE HOTELIER NASTY  
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IN THE CAPITAL!

## BLACK VEIL BRIDES

GARAGE, LONDON / ELECTRIC BALLROOM,  
LONDON. 13.03.15 / 15.03.15

KKKKKK

EXCESS ALL AREAS! 72 INTIMATE  
HOURS IN LONDON WITH BVB

WORDS: JAMES HICKIE PHOTOS: PAUL HARRIES

FRIDAY

**19:00** "We usually do rehearsals here before a European tour," says Black Veil Brides frontman Andy Biersack, backstage at The Garage. "We thought, instead of rehearsing to ourselves, let's do club shows for the fans where they get to watch!"

**19:30** "Drink this," grins bassist Ashley Purdy, as he thrusts a bottle into KI's hands. "It's Scotch. It came in a box, so it's good." He's right, it is.

**19:45** "The last time we played a show this small, I ended up in just cowboy boots and my underwear!" Ashley reminisces. This could get interesting.

**20:15** Ashley (trousers still on) uses his hairspray as a flamethrower. "We've got pyro during the warm-up!" jokes guitarist Jinxx.

**20:30** Drummer Christian "CC" Coma and Ashley discuss having a kissing booth to pay off last night's £1000 strip dub bill. So, how much will they charge? "With these lips?" CC ponders. "I should be paying them!"

**21:00** "Where's Andy?" CC asks, seconds before the band is due onstage. He's in the bathroom, apparently. Seconds later, he appears. "Let's do this!" the now-relieved frontman shouts.

**22:16** "We're having a blast!" Andy says onstage. "So much so that we're going to play a song we didn't write." It's a highly respectable cover of Mother by Danzig, after which CC gets the whole crowd to chant 'bacon'. Nope, we have no idea, either...

**22:35** Andy Biersack plays guitar! So, is he any good? Well, let's just say that he's a great singer.

**23:00** In The End brings proceedings to a spectacular dose, with the band swiftly disappearing off into the night. Wait for us, guys... Guys?!



Someone forgot to give Andy his pre-set banana



Don't try this at home, kids...



"Hi, guys, I'm your number one fan..."



It's all tongue-in-cheek for Jinxx



"Who wants a sniff of my armpit?"

BLACK VEIL BRIDES

HEART OF FIRE  
I AM BULLETPROOF  
COFFIN  
FAITHLESS  
LET YOU DOWN  
WRETCHED & DIVINE  
KNIVES & PENS  
RAG ME TO THE GRAVE  
OVERTURE  
SHADOWS DIE  
KICKSTART  
LAST RITES

GOODBYE AGONY  
REBEL LOVE SONG  
LEGACY  
SWEET BLASPHEMY  
PERFECT WEAPON  
FALLEN ANGELS  
REBEL YELL  
IN THE END







Andy found the 50p superglued to the floor really distracting...



Ashley has his blue steel well and truly NAILED

## SUNDAY

**17:00** It's hours before BVB are due on at the Electric Ballroom, but, outside, the streets are lined with fans.

**18:30** What did Andy do with his day off? "I did tourist stuff. I was amazed by how lax the security is at Buckingham Palace! I thought it'd be like the White House, where you can't get anywhere near that fucker, but I was right on the gates. Crazy!"

**18:45** Ashley appears, beer in hand. "We're keeping this train going! Where we're staying, they serve breakfast from 6:30am, so we've been partying right through to breakfast."

**19:15** Tonight's main support, Fearless Vampire Killers, are in their dressing room, where drummer Luke Illingworth is describing a recent scrap he had. "These two guys called us faggots, so I knocked them out. When they came around, I offered to buy them both a drink." Now that is what we call hospitality.

**19:45** Opening support Like A Storm take to the stage. Like metal with added didgeridoo? These New Zealanders are for you.

**20:00** BVB are ordering their dinner, which includes "a lot of miso soup". Sadly, K!'s 'miso horny' joke is met with unimpressed sighs.

**20:30** Fearless Vampire Killers take to the stage, with recent single Maeby instigating some frantic screams.

**21:40** "I'm not going to lie to you and say we're going to play a bunch of different stuff tonight," Andy says when BVB take the stage. "It'll mostly be the same." No-one seems to mind.

**21:48** Andy hands the mic out to the crowd. "I went to another concert last night," one fan says. "I broke my foot at it, but I'm back again." Impressive dedication.



"Er, you might need this, mate!"

## WHAT DID YOU THINK?

**REBECCA, TUNBRIDGE**

"It was so awesome that I don't mind we missed our train home! BVB are life-savers and they have made me who I am."



**TATIANA, HAMPSHIRE**

"It was amazing! Sadly, I couldn't make it to The Garage, so this [at the Electric Ballroom] is the first time I've ever seen them."



**ROBERT, ENFIELD (VIA LITHUANIA)**

"It was awesome! I've never been to a gig before, so this was a good one to start with! And I will go to a lot more now. They played all the great songs and it was LOUD!"



**22:07** "London, whaddup?" CC booms. "You look sexy as shit, but tired as fuck." There's only one thing for it, it's time to kickstart our hearts with... erm... Kickstart My Heart by Mötley Crüe.

**22:38** "That's why I love you," Andy enthuses. "We made up a song about our security guard looking like a turkey when he gets sunburned [Turkamayne], and now we're halfway across the world, in a room full of our best friends, singing it."

**22:44** CC's generosity results in injury. "I threw out my stick and cracked a girl right in the face, so can everyone please tell her that I'm sorry!"

**22:54** "We're never leaving this fucking stage," Andy says. "I will be reading the entire Dead Sea Scrolls on this stage for the next 12 hours." Hmm, we spy a concept album.

**23:05** Sadly, BVB do leave the stage, ending with In The End. "We have been Black Veil Brides and you have been amazing to us," Andy signs off. "Thank you for giving us a chance!" Anytime, boys!



And that's a wrap! See you next time, boys...



# PAPA ROACH

## PLUS: COLDRAIN, THE ONE HUNDRED

ROUNDHOUSE, LONDON. 12.03.15

KKKKK

**NU-METALLERS DO INFEST IN FULL. CUT YOUR LIFE INTO PIECES, THIS IS OUR LIVE REPORT...**

WORDS: MARK SUTHERLAND PHOTOS: CHRIS CASEY

**'MY NAME'S** Coby Dick, Mr Dick if you're nasty!' Jacoby Shaddix is no longer a Dick, by name or by nature, but these are the first words he sings tonight. For the first time ever, Papa Roach are playing 2000 nu-metal classic *Infest* in full. And the results are anything but nasty.

The One Hundred seem nice, too, possibly too much so, their aggressive Enter-Shikari-go-screamo mash-ups slightly undermined by their obvious desire to be liked. Coldrain have more of a mean metal streak, largely thanks to frontman Masato's ability to sing both like Kellin Quinn on helium and an enraged warthog.

Papa Roach, meanwhile, go back to a time when Jacoby was angrier than Jeremy Clarkson being served a cold meat platter. *Infest* was a product of its time – mostly ridiculously great, occasionally greatly ridiculous – but, on tonight's evidence, it's aged better than anyone expected. The ecstatic crowd reaction to *Last Resort* and *Broken Home* shows that, while massive shorts and wallet chains may remain out of fashion, the music is right back in vogue.

The even better news for the band is that revisiting this era doesn't seem like a, er, last resort. Much like Madonna at this year's Brits, Jacoby has been knocked down, but he's always got back up again, and, if anything, the surprisingly young crowd becomes even more frenzied during the more modern hits set that follows.

So it's fitting that the last words Jacoby sings tonight are 'I just wanna be loved' (from 2006's *...To Be Loved*). He is, and whether you call him Coby Dick, Mr Dick or plain old Jacoby Shaddix, Papa Roach's name looks set to be up in lights again soon.

### 5 MINUTES WITH...

## JACOBY SHADDIX

(PAPA ROACH, VOCALS)

**YOU WERE A VERY DIFFERENT PERSON WHEN YOU MADE INFEST. WAS IT WEIRD TO TAP BACK INTO THOSE SONGS?**

"It definitely brought a little kookiness out of me! Ultimately, I just [feel] gratitude for where we are 15 years later: people still love this music. It felt 'now' – it didn't feel like 'rocker gets up onstage and he's trying to bring back the glory days'. It was just an authentic good feeling."

**WILL YOU DO INFEST IN FULL AGAIN. OR WAS IT A ONE-OFF?**

"I'm sure we'll do it again this year. Managers and agents are like, 'You can do a whole tour on this,' but we've got to reflect on that. Every time we release a record, it's like putting our balls up on that chopping block again, but it feels like there's an authentic connection with the new shit. We've brushed up on the old school, it'd be cool to have a part of the set that rotates. Maybe mix things up more."

**DO WE HAVE TO CALL YOU COBY DICK AGAIN NOW?**

"Of course. Mr Dick if you're nasty, Dr Dick if you're sick. Old St Dick for Christmas, Count Dickula on Hallowe'en. I've got a sense of humour about it."

How many songs left, Jacoby? Gotcha...

## FOZZY

PLUS: THE DIRTY YOUTH

GARAGE, GLASGOW. 10.03.15

KKKKK

**WRASSLIN'S RESIDENT ROCKSTAR MAKES PUNCH-DRUNK SCOTLAND SUBMIT**

**WRESTLEMANIA'S RIGHT** around the corner. All OTT spectacle and brain-bruising attitude, it's a show Fozzy mainman Chris Jericho has stolen more than once. Yet tonight is as much statement as it is show: who'd wrestle when you could rock? South Wales' The Dirty Youth sure wouldn't. Frontlady Danni Monroe might seem an unstoppable force, but her band split their punches with patches of mesmeric melody. No such subtlety from the headliners. Flooring it with opener Do You Wanna Start A War and accelerating from there, it's gleefully high-octane stuff. Musically, Fozzy remain mainstream middleweights. But knockout tunes like Steel Panther-endorsed ballad *Tonite*, inexplicable ABBA cover *SOS* and neon newbie *Lights Go Out* suggest untapped excellence. Then there's Y2J himself. An undisputed charisma-bomb wrapped in muscle, his stage-smashing physicality and ring-honed crowd control are worth the entry alone. Yes, purists might balk. But this partisan horde hollers undivided: "Glasgow. Is. Jericho."

SAM LAW

## RAKETKANON

PLUS: BRUTUS

STILLERY, LONDON. 09.03.15

KKKKK

**BELGIUM SLUDGE NOISENIKS BRING THE WEIRD**

**BELGIUM'S RAKETKANON** may sing their songs in a collection of made-up words, but you'd be wrong to think that that's the strangest thing about them. But before things get weird, fellow natives Brutus are up with their barely controlled cacophony of post-hardcore mass. The trio's focal point is drummer-cum-singer Stefanie Mannaerts, whose vocal flippancy from dainty siren to coarse barbarian, paired with her being a force of nature on the kit, makes for a captivating watch. But equally as hard to avert your gaze from are Raketkanon. Yes, the four-piece's lyrics sheet may read like a cat walking across a keyboard, but vocalist Pieter-Paul Devos' reliance on primitive howls and yelps fits perfectly with the band's feral and chaotic semblance. Mind-boring electronics wrestle with weighty guitar grooves that pummel and pummel until they take your head hostage, as threatened on new record *RKTKN#2*. Drummer Pieter De Wilde gets in on the unruliness – hurling half his kit into the audience, while wearing a full-length robe. This is Raketkanon, and we guess there are no words.

TOM SHEPHERD



Always time for a selfie, right, guys?



Definitely worked up a sweat there, lads!



One fan got a bit too close for comfort



Tobin picks up the pace with his bass



## 5 MINUTES WITH...

## KIER KEMP

(FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS, VOCALS/GUITAR)

**IT'S A LOVELY SUNNY DAY BY THE COAST. KIER! DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'RE MUCH OF A SUNSEEKER?**

"Well, contrary to my image, I'm not averse to a bit of sitting in the sun. Before everything got started, me and Sam [Douglas, bass] from Mallory Knox grabbed a beer and were chilling out on this veranda thing. It was a lovely start to the day!"

**WHICH BANDS HAVE YOU SEEN TODAY? ANY TOP TIPS FROM THE FVK CAMP?**

"I'm definitely going to go and see Creeper, I love those guys!"

**YOU'VE JUST GOT OFF TOUR WITH IN THIS MOMENT, TOO. IT'S BEEN QUITE A WEEK OF SHOWS FOR YOU!**

"It's honestly been a phenomenal week. It's brilliant to finish it off with Takedown because the whole thing is just an enormous party. What's not to love?!"

FVK channel their inner Elton John

Eva really was transfixed by our 5 Mins With Kier...

Well, someone's shopped at M&amp;S...

Someone had Lego for dinner last night...

Moose Blood fall for the sticky ice mic trick

Charlie didn't appreciate the Year 3000 request

Baby Godzilla didn't attend the health-and-safety briefing

SHVPES bring guns and manbuns

If in doubt, the ole windmill never fails...

They shouldn't have shown the footie onstage...

## TAKEDOWN FESTIVAL

UNIVERSITY, SOUTHAMPTON. 07.03.15

## UK FESTIVAL SEASON KICKS OFF ON THE SOUTH COAST

WORDS: TOMAS DOYLE, JAMES HINGLE PHOTOS: CHRIS CASEY

**DING! DING!** Festival season's here! And as the earliest fixture in the calendar, Takedown has the honour of firing the starting pistol on the year's festival larks. So, with a stage curated by Fearless Vampire Killers, and plenty of beers ahead, let's get to it!

Usually providing us with as much devastation as Cthulhu, riffsters **HAWK EYES (KKK)** are hit with sound issues, but these brutes play through honourably. Meanwhile, in the students' union, **ROLO TOMASSI (KKKK)** are

Pretty sure that's not one of your 5 A Day, Sean...

reminding us just why they are much lauded scene-stalwarts. Playing to their hometown, **CREEPER (KKK)** bring a foray of ghoulish guitar licks, while **ARCANE ROOTS (KKK)** offer up a performance whose ultra-widescreen ambitions feel a little clipped by nondescript staging and a shortened set time. In what is essentially the university's watering hole, **ALLUSONDRUGS (KKKKK)** show us exactly why they are one of the most exciting new bands in the country by slaying us with their grungey psychedelica. Elsewhere, the chaps in **DECADE (KKKK)** are on hand to ensure everyone's pipes are being put to full effect, before **THE BLACKOUT (KKKK)** play their last-ever show on the south coast. Though they might not be the most sonically sophisticated proposition around today, they play with an enthusiasm which ensures that tunes like Start

The Party do exactly that. **MOOSE BLOOD (KKKK)** set about capturing the modern emo zeitgeist with efficiency, before **FORT HOPE (KKKK)** burn their way through a set list jam-packed with anthems tailor-made for bigger settings. A little bit later, **CHARLIE**

**SIMPSON (KKK)** breaks out the acoustic for a wee strum – although we can't help but miss some of the crunch from Fightstar's return. Headlining their own Obsidian Stage, **FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS (KKKK)** have come to "fuck things up", especially when they drop their Elton John cover. Yes, really. **SHVPES (KKK)** ply their metalcore to a sparse crowd but it's **BABY GODZILLA (KKKKK)** who crush all with their filth-ridden orgy of noise and usual clamber-on-everything antics.

It's left to a jet-lagged **MALLORY KNOX (KKKK)** to draw proceedings to a close. Though they've only just got back from touring with Sleeping With Sirens and Pierce The Veil, songs like Lighthouse and Ghost In The Mirror ring out like the anthems they are, bringing festivities to one triumphant end.



# REVIEWS

**STILL LOST  
IN STEREO!**

KKKKK = CLASSIC KKKK = EXCELLENT  
KKK = GOOD KK = AVERAGE K = POOR



## ALL TIME LOW

**FUTURE HEARTS**  
(HOPELESS)

**KKKKK**

**BALTIMORE POP-PUNK**

**KINGS DO IT ALL OVER AGAIN**

**BANDS WHO** choose to make Pop-Punkville their home usually navigate it via two avenues. And while in recent years the way of literary references and sociopolitical commentary (a la The Wonder Years) has become a rewarding route, the main drag remains the more popular option, where it's forever summer, and you're constantly cruising between a first date and the boulevard of broken dreams. And fart jokes.

All Time Low undoubtedly belong on that latter highway. Not as part of a traffic jam, but driving along at their own speed, to their own sat nav, while others follow. As Future Hearts' epic opener, Satellite, proves, in a scene jam-packed with sparkling pretenders, pop-punk is difficult to do *well*, but as their recent sold-out UK arena dates and this, their sixth album, prove, ATL do it as though this stuff were no

harder than telling shit jokes at gigs. That the song slides into your ear like greased wax makes it all the better.

As if restless to confirm this, after the opener that warns against misplacing your hope in false idols ('*Wishing on a star that's just a satellite*'), Kicking & Screaming arrives to remind us just what total experts at this stuff Alex Gaskarth and co are when they're '*Chasing rock'n'roll*'. Meanwhile, the recently unveiled Kids In The Dark proves that big tunes and straightforward charm wins the race, while the Fall Out Boy/Panic! At The Disco hat-tipping Dancing With A Wolf stylishly unveils the dangers of cutting the rug with a predatory canine (quite possibly).

But as the scope gets larger, the flaws are writ larger, too. And while the courage of

All Time Low's convictions makes it work, occasionally even good intentions and a whole lot of heart (future or otherwise) can't excuse the sheer hollowness of page-one platitudes like '*You set my sails when the tide was low*' (Runaways), and '*We could make forever after all*' (Cinderblock Garden).

Dealing in broad, relatable strokes is what has got All Time Low to where they are today, though. And these occasional lyrical blips notwithstanding, Future Hearts is a good enough burst of sticky pop-punk fun to keep them there. Because if you love pop-punk in its most unadulterated, carefree form, you'll heart this.

**DOWNLOAD:** Kicking & Screaming.

**FOR FANS OF:** Green Day, We Are The In Crowd.  
**JAMES HICKIE**





## THE INSIDER TALES FROM THE STUDIO...

**ALEX GASKARTH**  
(VOCALS/GUITAR)

**ALEX! TELL US ABOUT  
FUTURE HEARTS. NOW!**

"Future Hearts is comparable to [2009 album] *Nothing Personal*; there's a kind of symmetry there. With *Nothing Personal*, we didn't know what to do next and where we were going, but we found that one song that took it there. It was the same with this record; we weren't sure what story we wanted to tell, and then suddenly a few songs were rolled out and we realised it was about how we grew up and how we came to be."

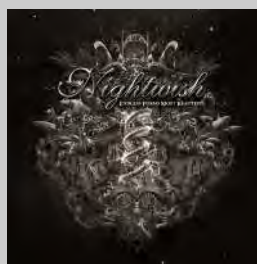
**DID THAT MAKE IT A HARD  
RECORD TO MAKE, THEN?**  
"It wasn't a difficult record to make *during*, but then it came to finalising it. We



didn't feel the pressure until we were getting it mixed and mastered, that's when you start second-guessing and asking, 'Is this what we want? Is this right for our fans?' Thankfully, we ended up making *exactly* what we wanted!"

**KICKING & SCREAMING  
TALKS ABOUT 'CHASING  
ROCK N' ROLL'. WHO ARE  
YOU CHASING?**

"We've always been chasing the bands we grew up on: Third Eye Blind, Foo Fighters, blink, Green Day – I feel like there's a top five that we have that never really changes, man!"



## NIGHTWISH ENDLESS FORMS MOST BEAUTIFUL

(NUCLEAR BLAST)

**KKKK**

**OPERA. METAL. RICHARD  
DAWKINS. NO DUCKS**

**WHEN HE** released an album based on the life of money-swimming billionaire bird Scrooge McDuck, it looked like Nightwish main-brain Tuomas Holopainen had lost it. Not just because the idea sounded like some sort of joke, but the music did, too. Then news broke that the forthcoming album from the Finnish opera-metallers would feature



a guest spot from Richard Dawkins – as in, evolutionary scientist, evangelical atheist, author of *The God Delusion* Richard Dawkins – and it'd be an album about us, humans, and our place in the universe. Great... It kind of made the introduction of their *third* vocalist, silk-lunged operatic queen Floor Jansen, seem like small potatoes. But then you actually hear *Shudder Before The Beautiful*, Élan, and Dawkins' spoken-word segments, and, as ever with Nightwish, it's a thing of

wonder. Yes, it's bonkers, but this is a band who have already used the orchestra from *The Lord Of The Rings* to add extra pomp to their gargantuan, symphonic-metal blast. Where can you go from there? Anywhere you like, if you're as gifted with the dramatic, the exciting and the romantic as Nightwish are. Lost it? Yeah, but in the most brilliant way possible. As ever. **DOWNLOAD:** Élan. **FOR FANS OF:** Within Temptation, Iron Maiden.

**NICK RUSKELL**



## VAN HALEN

**TOKYO DOME LIVE IN CONCERT**  
(WARNER BROS)

**KKK**

**REUNITED ROCK GIANTS  
CAPTURED LIVE (AND LOOSE)**

**CONSIDERING THE** quality of 2012's *A Different Kind of Truth*, Van Halen's first album with David Lee Roth since 1984, and that this classic iteration has never released a live album, this is one exciting release. And, if this 23-song set is an accurate relaying of their live show, should they ever make it back to these shores, we're in for an epic, if uneven, experience. Unchained could be retitled 'Untrained' given how sloppily it's delivered, while 'Runnin' With The Devil' finds 'Diamond' Dave speaking the lyrics to conserve resources for the more histrionic passages. It all adds to the charm, though, as the band's tense chemistry – like Eddie Van Halen's guitar playing – remains a divine gift.

**DOWNLOAD:** Panama.

**FOR FANS OF:** Steel Panther, Kiss, We Are Harlot.

**JAMES HICKIE**



## MELECHESH

**ENKI**  
(NUCLEAR BLAST)

**KKKK**

**EVIL DEATH METAL SOUNDS  
INSPIRED BY THE HOLY LAND**

**WITH THEIR** take on East meeting West, Melechesh are a bit like what Led Zeppelin would have been like if they'd spent more time living underground, dousing each other in goat's blood and playing black metal. The Jerusalem band's sixth album, *Enki* – named after the Sumerian god of magic – packs more fire than a Rammstein gig and ropes in some pretty interesting guests including Sepultura legend Max Cavalera. It's exactly the sort of hellish affair you'd expect from a band whose first recording was titled *As Jerusalem Burns... Al'Intisar*, and the exotic tapestries of *Lost Tribes* and album closer *The Outsiders* (a 13-minute epic that will tickle more than a few Opeth fans) make *Enki* a magical, mystical treat.

**DOWNLOAD:** Multiple Truths.

**FOR FANS OF:** Behemoth, Nile, Acherontas.

**AMIT SHARMA**



## DUNE RATS

**DUNE RATS**  
(RATBAG)

**KKK**

**ALMOST-RAD DEBUT FROM  
BRISBANE BEACH BUMS**

**WHEN AN** album starts with three guys chanting '*Dalai Lama! Big banana! Marijuana!*', you know you're not exactly in for high art and musical sophistication. There's a scrappy charm to the garage surf-punk vibes Aussie wasters Dune Rats chuck out, though, and tracks like *DR* manage to channel the ramshackle energy of early Green Day. They're at their best when they bring some genuine pop smarts to the table, as on lazy day strummer *When You're Around*, but sometimes they can rely too heavily on just thrashing and wailing away. Still, for soundtracking summers of misadventures, Dune Rats have got your back, dude.

**DOWNLOAD:** When You're Around, Good Seeds.

**FOR FANS OF:** Green Day, The Replacements, Ramones.

**JAMES MACKINNON**





## THE 10 NEW ROCK TRACKS MELTING OUR EARS!

### 1 PSYCHO MUSE

Matt Bellamy is swearing. We fucking love it. Shit hot.

### 2 STACKS PALM READER

Palm Reader here, telling happiness to sod right off.

### 3 RISING UP YOUNG GUNS

"Another ace cut from Young Guns' stellar new album, Chinese Democracy Ones And Zeros!" **SAM COARE, FEATURES EDITOR**

### 4 BETTER OFF DEAD SLEEPING WITH SIRENS

Kellin has 'voices' in his head. And they're all very high.

### 5 WHERE I BELONG RYAN ROSS

Mr ex-Panic! At The Disco returns. He sounds well sad :(

### 6 GLASS BUILT CASTLES BLACK PEAKS

"KAPOW! Let me introduce you to my favourite new band. And their best song." **LAURA REID, DEPUTY ART EDITOR**

### 7 I THINK GOD WOULD LIKE IT THAT WAY SHAWN SMITH

That. Voice. Holy moly.

### 8 BLINDED THE BOTS

Let's get straight to the BOTtom of this: wicked.

### 9 11:11 DINOSAUR PILE-UP

"Crushing and swaggering. Like Godzilla in loafers." **JOHN LONGBOTTOM, NEWS & ONLINE EDITOR**

### 10 BREED NIRVANA

It's on the Montage Of Heck trailer. Très goosebumps.



## UFOMAMMUT

**ECATE**  
(NEUROT)

**KKKK**

### ITALIAN SLUDGE MAESTROS GET THEIR DRONE ON

**PACKED WITH** super-fuzzed stoner-rock riffs, Ecate is a concept album of sorts based on a triple-faceted Greek goddess. So far, so Mastodon. But Ufomammut have their own unique flavour. The ingredients they use are deceptively simple; there are those sludgy guitars, of course, there are slow brooding beats and space-rock whooshes and swoops. They take these basic building blocks and craft them into labyrinthine tunnels. There are grooves within grooves, epic 10-minute jams, and they're able to create a feeling of genuine disquiet simply by shifting a drumbeat. Absolutely mammut. **DOWNLOAD:** Somnium. **FOR FANS OF:** Mastodon, Neurosis, Electric Wizard.

**PAUL TRAVERS**



## SCOTT WEILAND AND THE WILDBABOUTS

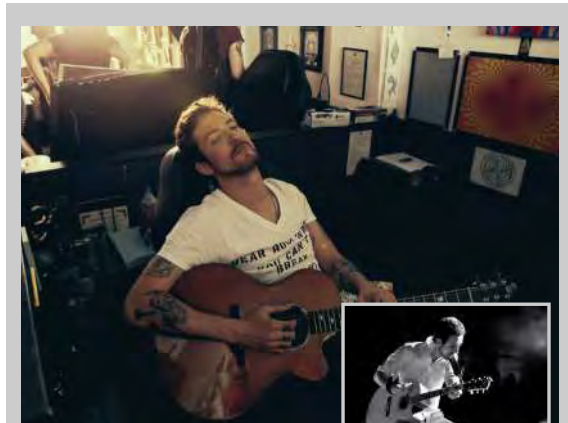
**BLASTER**  
(EARMUSIC)

**KKK**

### GREAT SCOTT! ROCK'S BAD BOY COMES GOOD-ISH

**HAVING BEEN** unceremoniously ejected from both Velvet Revolver and Stone Temple Pilots, it's safe to say that Scott Weiland is a musical outlaw. Now, after reassembling his ragtag bunch of musical mercenaries, he's ridden back into town with his Blaster in tow. And like the mighty ghetto blaster on the cover, Scott remains a vintage operator with a gift undiminished in the face of modern advancement, as illustrated by the deep-fried frenzy of Modzilla and the bluesy stomp of White Lightning. As a way of rehabilitating his reputation, this is certainly a solid start. **DOWNLOAD:** White Lightning. **FOR FANS OF:** Stone Temple Pilots, Velvet Revolver.

**JAMES HICKIE**



## FRANK TURNER

**THE ROAD BENEATH MY FEET**  
(HEADLINE)

**KKK**

### HARDCORE TROUBADOUR'S SNORTS'N'ALL MEMOIR

**IT USED** to be said that everyone had a novel inside them. In the 21st Century, however, it's a memoir. At least Frank Turner's account of his rise from despondent evacuee of British hardcore antiheroes Million Dead to a position of some prominence via an unmapped trawl through the 'toilet circuit' comprises more highlights than Match Of The Day. Even if, annoyingly, the narrative of The Road Beneath My Feet ends some time in 2012. And although the author has too much of a liking for stock phrases and something of an inability to prioritise the eventful over the merely mundane, nonetheless his sense of natural authority and *joie de vivre* survives the absence of an acoustic guitar.

**IAN WINWOOD**



## VARIOUS

**CATCH THE THRONE: THE MIXTAPE VOL. 2**  
(HBO)

**KKKK**

### BRACE YOURSELVES: TUNES OF WAR ARE COMING

**HAS IT** really taken five seasons for Game Of Thrones to cash in on just how fucking metal it is? Seriously, if this was the '80s, where dragons, swords and valour seemed permanently (red) wedded to heavy sounds, someone would have this thing sewn up already. But here we are. This second instalment of the GOT Mixtape tie-in series isn't a total metal fest – featuring as it does totally, uh, battle-tastic tunes from Snoop Dogg, Method Man and Estelle. Still, they've picked some blinding metal contributions from Anthrax, Killswitch



## SORCERER

**IN THE SHADOW OF THE INVERTED CROSS**  
(METAL BLADE)

**KKKK**

### FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO'VE BEEN WAITING 27 YEARS...

**LIGHTNING DOESN'T** strike twice. Unless, that is, you're some sort of... Sorcerer. Fittingly, there is a touch of dark magic about ITSOTIC. Formed in 1988 and split by 1992, these Swedish doom-mongers could've slipped into obscurity, as their fire burned bright, but fast. Yet somehow still, this decades-overdue first LP reignites long-dead embers. From the grandstanding Sumerian Script to the swooping portent of Pagan's Dance, the Stockholm veterans thrillingly recapture their dark art. Let's just hope LP number two doesn't take another 27 years to magic up.

**DOWNLOAD:** Prayers For A King. **FOR FANS OF:** Black Sabbath, Candlemass, Cathedral.

**SAM LAW**



## ANNISOKAY

**ENIGMATIC SMILE**  
(LONG BRANCH/SPV)

**KKK**

### GERMAN METALCORE MOB PLAY GERMAN METALCORE

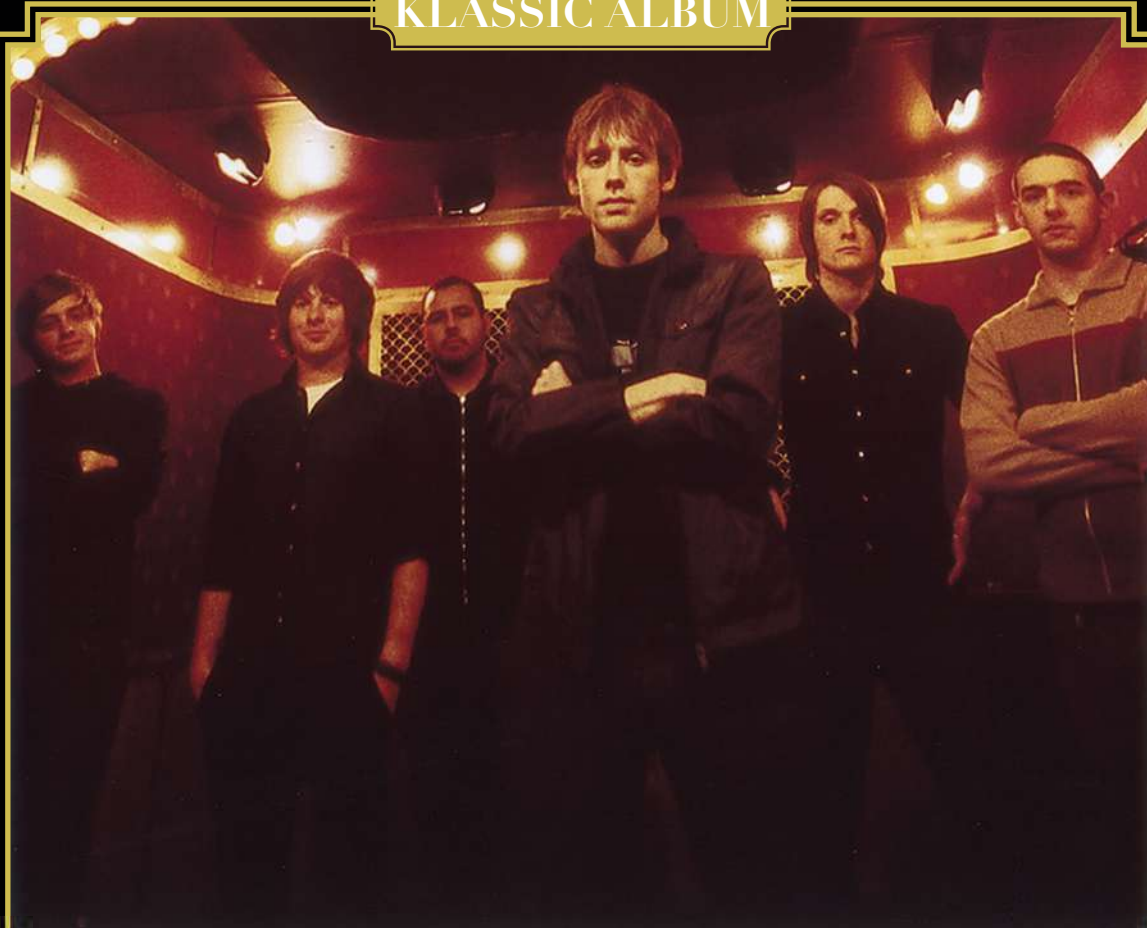
**'IF IT** ain't broke, don't fix it' could well be the clarion call of the metalcore masses dotting the planet, and Annisokay are screaming it from the rooftops. Chugging? Yup. Bellowing? Oh yes. Atmospheric bits? Present and correct. Nasal vocal melodies? By the truckload. To be fair, the more textured aspects of the record are not bad, the likes of Naked City and Wolves In The Walls wield some decent fist-in-the-air stomper, and the overt cheeriness infecting closer What Is Left draws a smile. But come on, any band whose name doesn't rhyme with *Glack Mabbath* that names a song Snowblind is just asking for trouble.

**DOWNLOAD:** Naked City. **FOR FANS OF:** Beartooth, Miss May I, Of Mice & Men.

**DAN SLESSOR**



## KLASSIC ALBUM



Engage and something by Mushroomhead. But it's Mastodon's *White Walker* that's really the jewel in the crown here, the band best suited to taking on something as epic as soundtracking this. On the whole, it's good stuff, and matches the scope of the series well. Although presumably nobody had Manowar's number to get them to make a steely contribution of their own.

**DOWNLOAD:** Mastodon – *White Walker*.

**FOR FANS OF:** Mastodon, Killswitch Engage, dragons.

NICK RUSKELL



### TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET

**TALES FROM WYOMING**  
(RISE)

KKKK

**ANOTHER BIG SLICE OF PIZZA-OBSESSED POP-PUNK**

**SIX ALBUMS** in, and Teenage Bottlerocket are still singing about wet dreams. While they haven't exactly stretched the boundaries of three chords, these Wyoming punks have crafted another 14 tracks of fearless fun here. For new ears, opener *In My Head*, *I Wanna Die* and *Too Much La Collina* fire the quickest riffs, dishing up easy-to-learn lyrics about their favourite pizza joint. Songs about pepperoni grease may be easy to dismiss as lazy, but the polished gleam of *Nothing Else Matters (When I'm With You)* is up there with the best *Bowling For Soup* could offer.

**DOWNLOAD:** Nothing Else Matters (When I'm With You).

**FOR FANS OF:** *Bowling For Soup*, *The Bouncing Souls*.

JESSICA BRIDGEMAN



### THURSDAY

**WAITING**  
(EYEBALL, 1999)



**WHEN IT** came to nailing down a sound that would help define underground rock music in the

21st Century, Thursday decided to make their mark in the final year of the 20th Century. Formed in New Brunswick in the badlands of New Jersey, this anglophile sextet – a union so influenced by Manchester's Joy Division that they named a song after lead singer Ian Curtis – took all that was good in then-modern rock music and tailored it to their own measurements. It was metal but without the sports gear or the baseball caps; it was punk rock but without the infantile tendencies.

Released in 1999, the band's debut album, *Waiting*, showed what it meant to be young but not dumb. And with it being reissued this month, now's the perfect time to see why the clarity of thought and power of Thursday's music remains present and intact.

**WHAT DID YOU WANT TO SAY ON WAITING?**

**GEOFF RICKLY (VOCALS):** "At the time I was convinced that this was going to be our only chance to make a real record. We were all doing different things, and we were in school, too. We had made a demo and were given the chance to put out that demo, but we convinced [the record label] to let us make an actual album. So we thought, 'We better make it good.' But we just wanted to capture [the essence of] Thursday. It took us about six months, working at weekends. And it cost somewhere in the region of \$1,100, which was more than the record company wanted to spend!"

**"WE WROTE IT WHEN WE WERE AT SCHOOL!"**  
GEOFF RICKLY

**WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT RECORDING THE ALBUM?**

"I remember the studio we recorded our demo in was a real studio, but it was in a house. We liked the results so much that we decided to make the album there, too. But in the time in-between us making the demo and the album, the studio had had this state-of-the-art refit, from sand in the floorboards to a million-dollar sound desk."

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SONG ON IT?**

"I think clearly the best song on the record is *This Side Of Brightness*. In fact, there are a lot of people who think that that's the best song of our career, and it was actually the first song we ever wrote. I still think it's a great song."

**LISTENING TO THE NEW REISSUE OF THE ALBUM, DO YOU RECOGNISE THE PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG MAN?**

"I do, actually. I listen to my voice on the songs and realise that, even if I tried, there's just no way that I could sing like that today. I've always considered myself more of a writer than a singer, but I certainly couldn't sound like I do on *Waiting*. But it's kind of cool to hear it and to think that we made this album at such a young age."

**HEAR IT IN FULL!**

KERRANG! RADIO PLAY THE WHOLE ALBUM AT 10PM, MARCH 26!



# GIGS

**WE WANT IN!**

## YOUNG GUNS

**GUSTAV AND CO ARE BACK! TO PLAY MORE THAN THREE SONGS...**

**WE LAST SAW YOU ON THE KERRANG! TOUR. WAS A GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL?**  
GUSTAV WOOD (VOCALS): "It was absolutely brilliant! Only playing three songs meant we had time for a little more fun, so our livers took a beating, but it really couldn't have been better! People reacted amazingly to the new songs we played and now we're just excited to go out and rip into these headline shows."

**HAVE YOU EVER MANAGED TO FALL OVER AS YOU RUN OUT ONSTAGE AT THE START OF THE SET?**

"Absolutely! On our first time doing the Kerrang! Tour [2010], as a matter of fact, and I think it was in Birmingham. I ran straight out onstage giving it the, 'What's up Birmingham!?' and fell straight on my face. All I could do was raise my hands and be like, 'Yeah, you all fucking saw me do that, there's not much I can do about it now!'"

**WITH ALL THOSE ACCIDENTS, DO YOU THINK YOU'RE IN BETTER OR WORSE PHYSICAL CONDITION THAN WHEN YOU STARTED THE BAND SIX YEARS AGO?**

"Mentally we're probably infinitely worse, but apart from all the drinking and partying, we do try to take care of ourselves, especially when we're off tour, so it probably balances it out. That said, when we look back at pictures from over the years we can definitely see the correlation between touring a lot more and the more 'road worn' we look (laughs)!"



### SUPPORT: BLITZ KIDS (MARCH/APRIL DATES ONLY)

**DATES:** 02 Academy Oxford March 27, Reading Bowery District 28, Colchester Arts Centre 29, Bristol Fleece 31, Stoke Sugarmill April 1, Brighton Haunt 2, Leeds Key Club 4, Edinburgh Electric Circus 5, Liverpool Arts Club Loft 6, Guildford Boilerroom May 29, Chester Live Rooms 30, Carlisle Brickyard 31, Peterborough Cresset June 1, Wolverhampton Wulfrun Hall 3, Cardiff Y Plas 4, Manchester Academy II 5, Norwich Waterfront 6, London King's Cross Scala 8, Glasgow Garage 9, Sheffield Plug 10.

TICKETS AND INFO FOR ALL THESE GIGS ARE AVAILABLE FROM:

**ALoud.COM**  
buy your tickets from [www.aloud.com](http://www.aloud.com)

## KERRANG! DAY MARCH 25



**BRIGHTON** THE ANSWER, BAD TOUCH, THE PICTUREBOOKS (Concorde 2)  
**GLASGOW** THE COLOUR LINE, BAD SIGN, SWORN TO OATH (13th Note Club)  
**GLASGOW** DORJE (Audio)  
**LEEDS** THE SUBWAYS, DUNE RATS (Brudenell Social Club)  
**LONDON** PLACEBO, THE MIRROR TRAP (Hammersmith Eventim Apollo)  
**LONDON** CHUCK RAGAN, TIM VANTOL (Scala, King's Cross)  
**MANCHESTER** LAGWAGON, THE FLATLINERS, WESTERN ADDICTION (Academy)  
**MANCHESTER** THE BLACKOUT (Academy 3)  
**MANCHESTER** HOGSLAYER (Kraak)  
**MANCHESTER** INTO IT. OVER IT, MODERN BASEBALL, TINY MOVING PARTS (Sound Control)  
**NORWICH** FOUR YEAR STRONG, HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP (Waterfront)  
**NOTTINGHAM** KARNIVOOL (Rescue Rooms)  
**PLYMOUTH** NOT SCIENTISTS (Underground)  
**STOKE** ALLUSONDRUGS (Underground)  
**SWANSEA** HEART IN HAND, HAND OF MERCY, LIFERUINER, CREATE TO INSPIRE (Scene)

## THURSDAY MARCH 26

**ABERDEEN** HOGSLAYER (Downstairs)  
**BASINGSTOKE** FALLING WITH STYLE (Sanctuary)  
**BOURNEMOUTH** PURPLE (Winchester)  
**BRISTOL** KARNIVOOL (O2 Academy Bristol)  
**CHESTER** DORJE (Compass)  
**CHESTER** FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND, VALES, EMPLOYED TO SERVE (Live Rooms)  
**EDINBURGH** THE QUIREBOYS (Bannerman's Bar)  
**GLASGOW** THE BLACKOUT (King Tut's)  
**GLASGOW** THE SUBWAYS, DUNE RATS (Oran Mor)  
**LEEDS** INTO IT. OVER IT, MODERN BASEBALL, TINY MOVING PARTS (Brudenell Social Club)  
**LIVERPOOL** JON GOMM (Leaf)  
**LONDON** FOUR YEAR STRONG, HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP (Electric Ballroom,

## THE SUBWAYS

The Hertfordshire rock trio have a song called Taking All The Blame, so we asked frontman Billy Lunn to tell us three times he's played the blame game...



### UNDER THE TABLE BANG-BANG

"When I was in year seven I bought some firecrackers from a year 11 kid, and almost instantly I got really scared that I had them, so I quickly sold them around the class. Five kids were caught with them and got in trouble, but I never did because no-one told on me! I've never admitted this until right now... my dirty secret is I was a childhood supplier of explosives! And I still feel really guilty about it."

### FARTING FATHER

"Our stage manager is mine and my brother Josh's [Morgan, drums] dad, and he's always farting on the tour bus. We're still quite embarrassed about doing so in front of others, so if one of us farts when he leaves the room, we tell everyone it was him. Then he comes back and has no idea why everyone's being really arsey with him!"

### A BULLET FOR YOUR BRO

"There were times in our youth

where I took the blame for some things that Josh had done, because he was always up to shenanigans while I was always the little angel polishing my halo. The one that comes to mind is when our parents looked in our browser history and saw things 14-year-olds were maybe not supposed to be looking at in there! So I said it was all me – but then it probably mostly was!"

### SUPPORT: DUNE RATS

**DATES:** Leeds Brudenell Social Club March 25, Glasgow Oran Mor 26, Sunderland Independent 28, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 29, Bristol Thekla 31, Norwich Waterfront April 1, London O2 Empire Shepherd's Bush 2.



Camden)  
**LONDON** NOT SCIENTISTS (Montague Arms, New Cross)  
**LONDON** THE ANSWER (O2 Academy Islington)  
**MANCHESTER** COLLISIONS (Sound Control)  
**NORWICH** HEART IN HAND, HAND OF MERCY, LIFERLINER, CREATE TO INSPIRE (Epic Studio)  
**NORWICH** RIVAL SONS (UEA)  
**NOTTINGHAM** REEF (Rescue Rooms)  
**PORTSMOUTH** LAGWAGON, THE FLATLINERS, WESTERN ADDITION (Wedgewood Rooms)  
**SOUTHAMPTON** OF MICE & MEN, THE AMITY AFFLICTION, VOLUMES (O2 Guildhall Southampton)  
**STOKE** THE COLOUR LINE, BAD SIGN, SWORN TO OATH (Bunker 13)

## FRIDAY

MARCH 27

**BIRMINGHAM** HEART IN HAND, HAND OF MERCY, LIFERLINER, CREATE TO INSPIRE (Asylum)  
**BIRMINGHAM** FOUR YEAR STRONG, HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP (O2 Academy2 Birmingham)  
**BRISTOL** OF MICE & MEN, THE AMITY AFFLICTION, VOLUMES (O2 Academy Bristol)  
**BRISTOL** THERAPY? (The Marble)  
**DUNDEE** HOGSLAYER (Cerberus Bar)  
**EDINBURGH** DUNE RATS (Electric Circus)  
**EXETER** THE ANSWER (Lemon Grove)  
**GLASGOW** INTO IT. OVER IT., MODERN BASEBALL, TINY MOVING PARTS (Stereos)  
**LONDON** THE COLOUR LINE, BAD SIGN, SWORN TO OATH (Black Heart, Camden)  
**LONDON** FELL OUT BOY (Underworld, Camden)  
**MANCHESTER** JON GOMM (Gorilla)  
**NEWCASTLE** COLLISIONS (Globe)  
**NORWICH** REEF (Waterfront)  
**NOTTINGHAM** FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND, VALES, EMPLOYED TO SERVE (Rescue Rooms)  
**OXFORD** YOUNG GUNS, BLITZ KIDS (O2 Academy Oxford)  
**PETERSFIELD** NOT SCIENTISTS (George)  
**SOUTHAMPTON** KARNIVOOL (1865)  
**SWANSEA** FALLING WITH STYLE (Sin City)

## SATURDAY

MARCH 28



**BALLYMENA** THE QUIREBOYS (Diamond Rock Club)  
**BLACKBURN** ALLUSONDRUGS (Blakey's)  
**BRIGHTON** FOUR YEAR STRONG, HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP (Concorde 2)  
**EXETER** PURPLE (Cavern)  
**GLOUCESTER** THERAPY? (Guildhall)  
**LEEDS** RIVAL SONS (O2 Academy Leeds)  
**LONDON** INTO IT. OVER IT., MODERN BASEBALL, TINY MOVING PARTS (Dome, Tufnell Park)  
**LONDON** HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW, WILLIAM BECKETT, ALVAREZ KINGS (Garage, Highbury)  
**LONDON** OF MICE & MEN, THE AMITY AFFLICTION, VOLUMES (O2 Academy Brixton)  
**LONDON** AMPLIFIER (Old Blue Last, Shoreditch)  
**LONDON** KARNIVOOL (Roundhouse, Camden)  
**MANCHESTER** HOGSLAYER (Gorilla)  
**MERTHYR TYDFIL** THE BLACKOUT (Leisure Centre)  
**MILTON KEYNES** DORJE (Craufurd Arms)  
**NEWCASTLE** JON GOMM (Cluny 2)  
**NORTHAMPTON** FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND, VALES, EMPLOYED TO SERVE (Roadmender)  
**READING** YOUNG GUNS, BLITZ KIDS (Bowery District)  
**SOUTHAMPTON** THE ANSWER (1865)  
**SUNDERLAND** THE SUBWAYS, DUNE RATS (Independent)  
**WAKEFIELD** FALLING WITH STYLE (Players Bar)

## SUNDAY

MARCH 29

**BIRMINGHAM** HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW, WILLIAM BECKETT, ALVAREZ KINGS (Oobleck)  
**BRISTOL** INTO IT. OVER IT., MODERN BASEBALL, TINY MOVING PARTS (Fleece)  
**BRISTOL** PURPLE, DEMOB HAPPY (Louisiana)  
**BRISTOL** DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT, PERIPHERY, SHINING (O2 Academy Bristol)  
**CARDIFF** HOGSLAYER (The Moon)  
**COLCHESTER** YOUNG GUNS, BLITZ KIDS (Arts Centre)  
**LIVERPOOL** RIVAL SONS (O2 Academy Liverpool)  
**LONDON** DORJE (Borderline)  
**LONDON** FRANK TURNER AND THE SLEEPING SOULS (Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore)  
**MANSFIELD** FALLING WITH STYLE (Intake)  
**NORWICH** SLEEPING WITH SIRENS, PIERCE THE VEIL, ISSUES (UEA)  
**NOTTINGHAM** THE SUBWAYS, DUNE RATS (Rescue Rooms)  
**PORTSMOUTH** FOUR YEAR STRONG, HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP (Wedgewood Rooms)

## MONDAY

MARCH 30



**BRISTOL** DORJE (Exchange)  
**GLASGOW** OF MICE & MEN, THE AMITY AFFLICTION, VOLUMES (Barrowland)  
**GLASGOW** DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT, PERIPHERY, SHINING (O2 ABC Glasgow)  
**GLASGOW** RIVAL SONS (O2 Academy Glasgow)  
**NOTTINGHAM** OOZING WOUND, GHOLD (Chameleon)  
**PORTSMOUTH** SLEEPING WITH SIRENS, PIERCE THE VEIL, ISSUES (Guildhall)  
**SHEFFIELD** JON GOMM (Corporation)

# LOCAL HEROES

SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON THE UK'S UNSIGNED TALENT!

THIS WEEK!



YOUR LAST DAY

FROM: Exeter, Devon.

**WE ARE:** Ryan (vocals), Chris (guitar/backing vocals), Matt (guitar/backing vocals), Neil (bass), Kev (drums).

**FAVOURITE BANDS:** Funeral For A Friend, Senses Fail, Every Time I Die, Beartooth, MC Hammer ("Does he count as a band?").

**WE SOUND LIKE...:** "A fish out of water... if it had legs and could drive a monster truck and entered a destruction derby to win the heart of a young manatee!"

**PEOPLE SHOULD CHECK US OUT 'CAUSE...:**

"We aren't your usual pop-post-hardcore band. We have a pop-punk vibe but with gruff, in-your-face vocals. Something for all of the family (providing they like pop-punk with gruff, in-your-face vocals)."

**CATCH US AT:** Newton Abbot Lemonfest May 30 (the best festival this side of Taunton Deane services).

**MORE INFO AT:** Facebook.com/yldbanduk

ARE YOU AND YOUR BANDMATES LOCAL HEROES? IF SO, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! EMAIL YOUR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ABOVE TO [GIGS@KERRANG.COM](mailto:gigs@kerrang.com). AND DON'T FORGET TO ATTACH A PHOTO OF YOUR BAND. SIMPLY PUT 'LOCAL HEROES' AND YOUR BAND NAME IN THE SUBJECT HEADER AND YOU COULD BE APPEARING IN THIS VERY SLOT VERY SOON...

**SOUTHAMPTON** FALLING WITH STYLE (Joiners)

## TUESDAY

MARCH 31

**BRIGHTON** THERAPY? (Concorde 2)  
**BRISTOL** YOUNG GUNS, BLITZ KIDS (Fleece)  
**BRISTOL** SLEEPING WITH SIRENS, PIERCE THE VEIL, ISSUES (O2 Academy Bristol)  
**BRISTOL** THE SUBWAYS, DUNE RATS (Thekla)  
**CARDIFF** FALLING WITH STYLE, CREATE TO INSPIRE, BREATHE, THE SILENCE, CASEY (Clwb Ifor Bach)  
**DUBLIN** A PLACE TO BURY STRANGERS (Whelan's)  
**GLASGOW** ZOAX (Audio)  
**GLASGOW** HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW, WILLIAM BECKETT, ALVAREZ KINGS (King Tut's)

**GLASGOW** OOZING WOUND, GHOLD (Nice N' Sleazy)

**LINCOLN** ALLUSONDRUGS (Engine Shed)

**LONDON** THE HYENA KILL, WICKED SNAKES (Stillery)

**MANCHESTER** DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT, PERIPHERY, SHINING (Academy)

**NEWCASTLE** OF MICE & MEN, THE AMITY AFFLICTION, VOLUMES (O2 Academy Newcastle)

For free inclusion, e-mail your gig/festival details to: [gigs@kerrang.com](mailto:gigs@kerrang.com)

Please include: 1. DATE 2. CITY 3. VENUE

4. BAND (+band genre) 5. SUPPORT BANDS

or FESTIVAL INFO. No attachments!

Note: If any of these details are missing, listing will not be included.

Deadline is 15 days previous to Kerrang! issue dates.

### GO SEE! FOUR YEAR STRONG

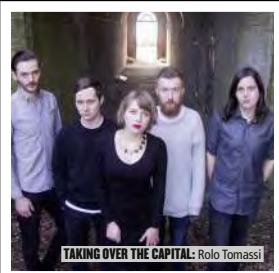
**SUPPORT:** HIT THE LIGHTS, FOREVER CAME CALLING, LIGHT YOU UP.  
**TOUR DATES:** NORWICH WATERFRONT MARCH 25, LONDON CAMDEN ELECTRIC BALLROOM 26, O2 ACADEMY2 BIRMINGHAM 27, BRIGHTON CONCORDE II 28, PORTSMOUTH WEDGEWOOD ROOMS 29.

Not got a ticket to see the Massachusetts foursome this week? Then it must really suck to be you right now, because this is their first UK tour in, like, three years. Plus they're bringing along Ohio pop-punks Hit The Lights, California pop-punks Forever Came Calling, and the slightly less exotic Brummie pop-punks Light You Up. It's a tour set to be more pop-punk than hanging out with your friends in a beach-front pizzeria. Mmmm, pizza.





## JUST ANNOUNCED!



### CAPSIZE

London Boston Music Room May 17, Sheffield Corporation 18, Glasgow Audio

18, Dundee Buskers 20, Birmingham Oobleck 21, Plymouth Junction 22, Swansea Scene 23.

### ELECTRIC WIZARD

Support added: The Cosmic Dead, Purson, Moss. London Camden Roundhouse May 15.

### THE GET UP KIDS

Support: Deaf Institute August 13, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 14, Leeds Key Club 16, Edinburgh Studio 24 17.

### KNIFEWORLD

Birmingham Oobleck May 26, Manchester Gullivers 27, York Fibbers 28, London Boston Music Room 29, Brighton

## ALL TIME LOW SUPPORT: NECK DEEP

DATE: Edinburgh Corn Exchange August 25.

Prince Albert 30, Bristol Exchange 31.

### ROLO TOMASSI

London Dalston Power Lunches June 1, London Camden Our Black Heart 2, London Stoke Newington Waiting Room 3, London Peckham Rye Wax 4. Support: Svalbard (June 1), Bastions (2), Employed To Serve (3), His & Hers (4).

### YOUNG GUNS

Support added: Blitz Kids (March and April only).

Tickets for all KI! gigs are available from:

**ALoud.COM**  
Buy your tickets from [www.aloud.com](http://www.aloud.com)

### 5 SECONDS OF SUMMER

Dublin O2 Arena May 28, Belfast Odyssey Arena 30, Glasgow SSE Hydro June 1, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 2, Leeds First Direct Arena 3, Birmingham NIA 5 – 6, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 7, Manchester Phones 4u Arena 9, Liverpool Echo Arena 10, London SSE Arena Wembley 12 – 14.

### 2000 TREES FESTIVAL

Line-up: Deaf Havana, Kerbdog, Pulled Apart By Horses, Arcane Roots, Rob Lynch, Big Sixes, Allusondrugs, Nothing But Thieves, &U&I, Solemn Sun, Milk Teeth. Cheltenham Upcote Farm July 9 – 11.

### AC/DC

Glasgow Hampden Park June 28, Dublin Aviva Stadium July 1, London Wembley Stadium 4.

### AMERICAN FOOTBALL

London Camden Electric Ballroom May 13, Leeds Brudenell Social Club 15 (matinee show).

### AMERICAN NIGHTMARE

London Camden Electric Ballroom April 29.

### ANATHEMA

London O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire April 16.

### AND SO I WATCH YOU FROM AFAR

Glasgow King Tut's April 28, Manchester Gorilla 29, Bristol Marble Factory 30, London Islington Assembly Hall May 1.

### ARCANE ROOTS

Belfast Sub April 22, Sheffield Corporation 24, Edinburgh Mash House 25, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 26, Colchester Colchester Arts Centre 28, Brighton Sticky Mike's Frog Bar 29, Cambridge Portland Arms 30, Birmingham Institute Temple May 1, Leeds Live At Leeds Festival 2, York Fibbers 3, Liverpool Arts Club 5, O2 Academy2 Oxford 7, Nottingham Bodega 8, Manchester Deaf Institute 9, Newcastle Think Tank? 10, Glasgow King Tut's 12, Chester Live Rooms 13, Bristol Exchange 14, Tunbridge Wells Forum 15, Norwich Waterfront Studio 17, Exeter Cavern 19, Reading Boverly District 20, Guildford Boilerroom 21, London Oslo 22 – 23. Support: Black Peaks, Gallery Circus, Solemn Sun.

### AS IT IS

London Secret Venue April 20.

### AS IT IS / THIS WILD LIFE

Kingston Fighting Cocks May 9, Southampton Joiners 10, Cardiff Clwb Ifor Bach 11, Reading Boverly District 12, London Garage 13, Norwich Epic Studios 14, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 16, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 17, Glasgow King Tut's 18, Manchester Sound Control 19, O2 Academy2 Oxford 21, Yeovil Westlands 22. Support: Seaway, Boston Manor.

### ATREYU

London Camden Underworld April 29.

### BEARTOOTH

Reading Boverly District May 18, Boumoumouth Anvil 19, Northampton Roadmenders 20, Carlisle Brickyard 21, Edinburgh Studio 24 22. Support: The Color Morale, Dead Harts.

### THE BLACKOUT

Manchester Academy III March 25, Glasgow King Tut's 26, Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre 28.

### BLACK STONE CHERRY

Glasgow Garage June 11, Cork Pavilion 15, Dublin Academy 16, Belfast Ulster Hall 17.

### BLOODSTOCK OPEN AIR

Line-up: Black Label Society, Napalm Death, Wolf, Trivium, Rob Zombie, Within Temptation, Opeth, Ihsahn,

Cannibal Corpse, Sepultura, Death DTA, Dark Angel, Nuclear Assault, Orange Goblin, 1349, Armored Saint, Overkill, Ensiferum, Belphegor, Sabaton, Agalloch, Enslaved, Korpiklaani, Pro-pain, Delain, Fleshgod Apocalypse, Battalion, Mordred, Destrage, Godflesh, Conan, Bast, Planet Of Zeus, Dirty Sanchez's Pritchard vs Dainton, Ethereal, Lawnmower Deth, Oaf, Sailla. Derbyshire Catton Park August 6 – 9.

### BURY TOMORROW

Stoke Sugarmill April 9, Cheltenham 2 Pigs 10, Rugby Vault 11, Reading Sub89 16, Bath Nest 17, Bridgend Hobos 18, Exeter Phoenix 23, Bournemouth Sound Circus 24, Brighton Haunt 25. Support: Dead Harts (9 – 11), Polar (16 – 18), Creeper (23 – 25).

### CARTER

London O2 Academy Islington May 22.

### CIRCA SURVIVE / RX BANDITS

Brighton Haunt May 18, Leeds Key Club 19, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 20, O2 ABC2 Glasgow 21, Nottingham Rock City Basement 22, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 23, Manchester Sound Control 25, Bristol Marble Factory 26, Southampton Engine Rooms 27, London Camden Electric Ballroom 28. Support: From Indian Lakes.

### COMEBACK KID

London Highbury Garage May 22. Support: Bane.

### CONVERGE

London ULU May 30. Support: Trap Them, Harms Way, Young And In The Way.

### DAMNATION FESTIVAL

Line-up: At The Gates. Leeds University Union November 7.

### DEAD KENNEDYS

Manchester Ritz June 21, O2 Academy Bristol 22, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 23, Glasgow King Tut's 25, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 26, London O2 Empire Shepherd's Bush 27.

### DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE

London O2 Empire Shepherd's Bush June 8 – 10.

### DECAPITATED

UK Techfest @ Newark Showground, Newark-on-Trent July 9 – 13.

### DEVIL SOLD HIS SOUL

Brighton Green Door Store April 22, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 23, Manchester Sound Control 24, Leeds Key Club 30, Glasgow Classic Grand May 1, Wrexham Central Station 2, Norwich Epic Studios 3, London 100 Club 4. Support: Dead Harts, When We Were Wolves.

### DEVIN TOWNSEND PROJECT

O2 Academy Bristol March 29, O2 ABC Glasgow 30, Manchester Academy 31, London Royal Albert Hall April 13. Support: Periphery, Shining.

### DIR EN GREY

London O2 Academy Islington May 23 – 24.

### DOWNLOAD

Line-up: Slipknot, Muse, Kiss, Judas Priest, Faith No More, Mötley Crüe, Five Finger Death Punch, A Day To Remember, Slash Featuring Myles Kennedy & The Conspirators, Black Stone Cherry, Marilyn Manson, Enter Shikari, Black Veil Brides, Lamb Of God, Billy Idol, Rise Against, Parkway Drive, Hollywood Undead, Clutch, Body Count, Eagles Of Death Metal, Godsmack, Mallory Knox, Motionless In White, Madball, Every Time I Die, DragonForce, Backyard Babies, Crown The Empire, Northlane, H.E.A.T., Andrew W.K., We Are Harlot, King 810, Ace Frehley, All That Remains, Bombus, Black Star Riders, Blood Youth, Chelsea Grin, Creeper,



Defeater, Evil Scarecrow, Fearless Vampire Killers, Gnarwolves, Hands Like Houses, Hellyeah, In Flames, L7, Stray From The Path, Testament, Thunder, Aaron Kyeck, Allusondrugs, American Fangs, Apocalyptica, Beartooth, Blackberry Smoke, Butcher Babies, Cavaleira Conspiracy, Code Orange, Counterparts, Crobot, Dead Daisies, Decade, Dolomite Minor, Emptire, Fightstar, Ghost Town, God Damn, Heart Of A Coward, Hey! Hello!, Hyena, Iconic Eye, In Hearts Wake, Insomnium, Love Zombies, Modestep, New Years Day, The One Hundred, The Pink Slips, Pop Evil, Pursion, ROAM, Royal State, September Mourning, Sirens In The Delta, The Sword, Sylosis, Trash Boat. Donington Park June 12 – 14.

**ENTER SHIKARI**  
Bristol Motion Club June 12.

**FALL OUT BOY**  
Leeds First Direct Arena October 3, Aberdeen AECC GE Oil & Gas Arena 4, Birmingham Barclaycard Arena 6, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 7, Manchester Arena 9, Bournemouth International Centre 10, London SSE Arena Wembley 11 – 12.

**FINCH**  
Glasgow Garage May 27, Newcastle University 28, O2 Academy2 Manchester 29, Norwich Waterfront 31, Brighton Concorde II 1 June, London Camden KOKO 2, Bristol Marble Factory 3. Support: Fort Hope, Only Rivals.

**FOO FIGHTERS**  
Sunderland Stadium Of Light May 25, Manchester Emirates Old Trafford 27, London Wembley Stadium June 19 – 20, Edinburgh BT Murrayfield Stadium 23. Support: Iggy Pop, Royal Blood (June dates only).

**FOUR YEAR STRONG**  
Norwich Waterfront March 25, London Camden Electric Ballroom 26, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 27, Brighton Concorde II 28, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 29. Support: Hit The Lights, Forever Came Calling, Light You Up.

**FRANKIERO AND THE CELLABRATION**  
Manchester Academy III April 16, Leeds Key Club 17, Glasgow King Tut's 19, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 20, Cardiff Globe 22, Brighton Haunt 23, O2 Academy2 Oxford 24, London Camden Underworld 28, Portsmouth Wedgewood Rooms 29, London Camden Underworld May 10.

**FUNERAL FOR A FRIEND**  
Chester Live Rooms March 26, Nottingham Rescue Rooms 27, Northampton Roadmender 28. Support: Vales and Employed To Serve (March 26 – 28).

**GALLONS**  
Glasgow Cathouse May 22, London Highbury Garage 26, Manchester Sound Control 27. Support: Baby Godzilla.

**GNARWOLVES / THE SMITH STREET BAND**  
Bristol Fleece April 23, Southampton Joiners 24, London Tufnell Park Dome 25, Glasgow Audio 26, Manchester Gorilla 27, Leicester Soundhouse 28. Support: Drug Church.

**HEAVEN'S BASEMENT**  
Cardiff Globe May 27, Tunbridge Wells Forum 28, Sheffield Corporation 29. Support: Glamour Of The Kill, Ashes.

**HENRY ROLLINS**  
Bristol St George's January 10, 2016, Newcastle Tyne Theatre 11, Manchester Bridgewater Hall 12, London Barbican 14, Birmingham Town Hall 15, London Barbican 16, O2 Academy Glasgow 18.

**HEVY FESTIVAL**  
Line-up: Coheed And Cambria, Thrive, The Dillinger Escape Plan,

Monuments, Vales, Grader, Up River, OHMS, Collisions, Baby Godzilla, Black Tusk, The Colour Line, Continents, Creeper, Fathoms, Fort Hope, The Get Up Kids, Hactivist, Touché Amoré, Wraiths. Port Lympne Wild Animal Park August 14 – 15.

**HIT THE DECK**  
Line-up: Skindred, While She Sleeps, Cancer Bats, Fmkiero and the cellabration, A Great Big Pile Of Leaves, Allusondrugs, Ashes, As It Is, Beasts, City Of Ships, Dead!, Dead Hearts, Decade, Devil Sold His Soul, The Early November, Idiom, Junius, Rolo Tomassi, The Swellers, Thomas Nicholas Band, Tim Vantol, When We Were Wolves, You Blew It!, ZOAX. Bristol April 25, Nottingham 26.

**IMPERICON FESTIVAL**  
Line-up: DeeZ Nuts, Adept, The Ghost Inside, Whitechapel, Suicide Silence, Stick To Your Guns, Carnifex, Being As An Ocean, Ingested, Desolated Inc. Manchester Academy May 4.

**INCUBUS**  
London Eventim Apollo June 16.

**INME**  
Manchester Sound Control May 4, Glasgow Audio 5, Liverpool Arts Club 6, Cardiff Globe 7, Bristol Exchange 8, London Borderline 10, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms 11, Nottingham Rock City Basement 12, Norwich Waterfront Studio 13, Reading Bowery District 14, Wolverhampton Slade Rooms 15. Support: The Dirty Youth.



LISTINGS LIKE THESE: Foo Fighters

**ISLE OF WIGHT FESTIVAL**  
Line-up: The Prodigy, You Me At Six, Billy Idol. Newport Seaside Park June 12 – 15.

**KARNIVOL**  
Nottingham Rescue Rooms March 25, O2 Academy Bristol 26, Southampton 1865 27, London Camden Roundhouse 28.

**KORN**  
O2 Apollo Manchester July 15, London O2 Academy Brixton 16. Support: Snot.

**LA DISPUTE**  
Leeds Brudenell Social Club May 25, London Camden KOKO 26. Support: Two Inch Astronaut.

**MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK**  
O2 Academy2 Birmingham May 3, London Camden KOKO 4. Support: The Xcerts.

**THE MOVIELIFE**  
London Camden Electric Ballroom June 18, O2 Academy2 Birmingham 19, Manchester Academy II 20.

**MASS FESTIVAL**  
Line-up: Enter Shikari, Bath & West Showground. July 10 – 12.

**NEGATIVE PLANE / CRAVEN IDOL / WITCHSWORD**  
London Black Heart July 16.

**NICKELBACK**  
Sheffield Motorpoint Arena November 13, Glasgow SSE Hydro 14, Newcastle Metro Radio Arena 16, Manchester Arena 17, Liverpool Echo Arena 19, Birmingham Genting Arena 21, Nottingham Capital FM Arena 22, London SSE Arena Wembley 24.

Support: Monster Truck.  
**NIGHTWISH**  
London SSE Arena Wembley December 19. Support: Arch Enemy, Amorphis.

**NOFX / ALKALINE TRIO**  
O2 Academy Birmingham June 27, O2 Academy Newcastle 30, O2 Academy Leeds July 3, London O2 Academy Brixton 4 – 5.

**THE OFFSPRING**  
O2 Apollo Manchester August 25, London O2 Academy Brixton 26.

**OF MICE & MEN**  
O2 Guildhall Southampton March 26, O2 Academy Bristol 27, London O2 Academy Brixton 28, Glasgow Barrowland 30, O2 Academy Newcastle 31, Nottingham Rock City April 2, O2 Academy Birmingham 3, Manchester Academy 4. Support: The Amity Affiliation, Volumes.

**OPETH**  
London Palladium October 18.

**THE PRODIGY**  
O2 Academy Newcastle May 4, Bridlington Spa 5, O2 Academy Birmingham 7, Cardiff Motorpoint Arena 8, Blackpool Empress Ballroom 9, Reading Rivermead 11, Brighton Centre 12, Bournemouth International Centre 14, London Alexandra Palace 15 – 16.

**PVRIS**  
London Camden Barfly April 16, O2 Academy3 Birmingham 18. Support: Light You Up, Twin Wild.

Morale, The Bronx, Mariachi El Bronx, Trash Talk, Zebrahead, Baby Godzilla, ROAM, Cartel, As It Is, Moose Blood, Stick To Your Guns, DeeZ Nuts, Dead Harts, SHVPES, Rob Lynch, Patent Pending, Lightyear, Big D & The Kids Table, Transit, Such Gold, This Wild Life, Being As An Ocean, Aaron West & The Roaring Twenties, Wind In Sails, Fort Hope, Seaway A Loss For Words, Emmure, Thy Art Is Murder, Only Rivals, Surveys Says!. Leeds City Centre May 23, Hertfordshire Forum 24, Wolverhampton City Centre 25.

**SLEEPING WITH SIRENS / PIERCE THE VEIL**  
Norwich UEA March 29, Portsmouth Guildhall 30, O2 Academy Bristol 31, Manchester Academy April 2, O2 Academy Leeds 3, O2 Academy Newcastle 6, Nottingham Rock City 7, O2 Academy Birmingham 8, London Kentish Town Forum 10 – 11. Support: Issues.

**THE SWELLERS**  
Birmingham Rainbow April 21, Manchester Sound Control 22, Glasgow Audio 23, Leeds Key Club 24, London Tufnell Park Dome 27, Brighton Hope 28.

**SYSTEM OF A DOWN**  
London SSE Arena Wembley April 10.

**THEORY OF A DEADMAN**  
Bristol Bierkeller April 23, Sheffield Leadmill 24, O2 ABC Glasgow 26, Manchester Academy II 27, Birmingham Library @ Institute 28, London King's Cross Scala 30.

**TITLE FIGHT**  
Bristol Thekla May 2, Leeds Outbreak Festival 3, Glasgow Classic Grand 4, London Tufnell Park Dome 6.

**TRASH TALK / BEING AS AN OCEAN**  
Glasgow Cathouse May 5, London ULU 6. Support: DeeZ Nuts, Stick To Your Guns.

**TURBOWOLF**  
Oxford Bullingdon Arms April 8, Swansea Sin City 9, Nottingham Bodega 10, Coventry Kasbah 11, Leeds Key Club 12, O2 Academy2 Liverpool 14, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 15, Sheffield Harley 16, Tunbridge Wells Forum 17, Southampton Talking Heads 18, Cambridge Portland Arms 20, Bristol Marble Factory 22. Support: Dolomite Minor.

**TWIN ATLANTIC**  
Manchester Albert Hall May 5, London O2 Academy Brixton 7, O2 Academy Birmingham 8, Glasgow SSE Hydro 9.

**WE ARE THE OCEAN**  
London Camden Electric Ballroom April 8, Milton Keynes Craufurd Arms May 16, Cambridge Portland 17, Liverpool Arts Club 18, Nottingham Red Room, Plymouth Underground 20.

**WHILE SHE SLEEPS / CANCER BATS**  
Birmingham Institute April 22, Manchester Ritz 23, Norwich UEA 24, Newcastle University 28, O2 ABC Glasgow 29, London Kentish Town Forum 30. Support: Hundreth, Oathbreaker.

**WILL HAVEN**  
Manchester Sound Control May 24, York Duchess 25, O2 ABC Glasgow 26, O2 Academy2 Newcastle 27, Nottingham Rock City Basement 28, Bristol Temples Festival 29. Support: Raging Speedhorn, Palm Reader.

**THE XCERTS**  
Guildford Boileroom April 10, Tunbridge Wells Forum 11, York Duchess 13, Hull Fruit 14, Aberdeen Lemon Tree 15, Inverness Ironworks 16, Edinburgh Mash House 17, Birmingham Rainbow 19, London Borderline 20, Cambridge Portland 21, Northampton Roadmender 22, Exeter Cavern 23.



**MY FIRST GIG**  
STEREOPHONICS, SWANSEA MORFA STADIUM, 1999  
GAVIN BUTLER, THE BLACKOUT



"WE'D BEEN going to watch little bands in the local rock club, but my first proper gig was the Stereophonics at Morfa Stadium, which is no longer there. The gig was the last thing that happened at the stadium before it got knocked down, and they made it into a DVD. I'd have been 16 and there was a minibus full of us who went. I think Sean [Smith, The Blackout co-vocalist] was there, Matthew [Davies] our guitarist was there. Actually, it must have been bigger than a minibus, it was a full 30-seater coach that someone from Merthyr had organised. We were all drinking on the way over at god knows what time in the afternoon!

"If you were in South Wales at the time, you were automatically a Stereophonics fan. On the first album [1997's Word Gets Around], the lyrics were all about Aberdare and Cwmaman, which is, like, the valley over from us and pretty much

## "IF YOU WERE IN SOUTH WALES, YOU WERE A FAN!"

exactly the same as our town. You read your own life into the lyrics and you could totally relate to it. If you were 16 in the late-'90s, the Stereophonics were a massive influence on you!

"[1999 album] Performance And Cocktails had just come out and I remember they opened with The Bartender And The Thief. It was phenomenal, I loved it. It was a big open-air thing and I'd have been stood in the Stereophonics' equivalent of the pit. There wasn't a lot of moshing going on but I loved it anyway.

"It was the first time I'd seen anyone playing on a big stage like that with lights and a massive production. It blew me away. I'd always wanted to sing but I guess this show made me think that I wanted to do that with a rock band!"

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Logos for Black Sabbath, Motorhead, 44 AAA, Mayday Parade, and others are visible. A QR code is also present.

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Two men playing electric guitars are featured in the background.



# NEXT WEEK

ON SALE **APRIL 1**

On February 20, 1967, **KURT DONALD COBAIN** was born. He wrote **SONGS**, drew **PICTURES** and formed a **BAND**. That band, a punk rock trio from **SEATTLE**, Washington, gatecrashed the mainstream, proving more culturally seismic than any band before or since.

**THAT BAND, NIRVANA,  
WENT ON TO CHANGE THE WORLD.**

After **THREE** incredible studio **ALBUMS** – which went on to sell over **75 MILLION** worldwide – hundreds of **LIVE PERFORMANCES** still talked about in hushed tones today, and millions and millions of **LIVES CHANGED**, Kurt Cobain **DIED** on April 5, 1994. He was **27**.

Next week, we celebrate the **INFLUENCE** of this immortal man. From the new music he continually **INSPIRES**, to the spark in the hearts of **YOUR FAVOURITE ROCKSTARS** that continues to burn bright, 21 years after Kurt Cobain left this mortal coil.

## NEXT WEEK, KURT LIVES.



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# THE ALL-NEW! ULTIMATE ROCKSTAR TEST

THIS WEEK: SACHEL, STEEL PANTHER

The virtuoso six-stringer has been there, done it and got the spandex. Prepare to take the following with an *incredibly large pinch of salt...*

## ON ROCK'N'ROLL...

### WHO'S THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON ON YOUR MOBILE PHONE?



"I told the super-famous ones that I wouldn't say, but I'm gonna fucking tell you – because Kerrang! means more to me than they do as friends. I'd have to say Barack Obama. He's *really* famous now. When I first put him in my phone, he wasn't even a senator yet. I used to go to Hawaii a lot back in the '70s and he used to sell pot. Do you want his number? He still texts when he gets a new batch in."

### WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD A FIGHT?

"Usually what happens, if someone tries to pick a fight with me, is I get the security guards to beat the shit out of them. I make sure that the security guard hits them so hard, they don't want to fight any more. I don't like fighting 'cause my face is pretty."

### WHAT'S THE MOST ROCKSTAR THING YOU'VE EVER DONE?

"I wrote a song about having a threesome, while I was having a foursome with three girls and a dog. I wrote the lyrics with a Shar Pei on a girl's back while I was making out with the other. I don't even know what the dog was doing. The next day, I had to track her down to get the lyrics." **INTERESTINGLY, THIS WAS THE VERSION WE COULD PRINT!**

## ON YOUR OWN MUSIC...

### WHAT'S THE FIFTH TRACK ON FEEL THE STEEL?

"This is easy – I got this shit! Eatin' Ain't Cheatin'? No, I got it wrong, didn't I? It's Fat Girl (Tar She Blows)? I knew that. I have



my shit on shuffle...  
**IT'S YOUR MUSIC, NO EXCUSES!**

### AVENGED SEVENFOLD FRONTMAN M. SHADOWS FEATURED ON THE TRACK TURN OUT THE LIGHTS, BUT WHAT IS HIS REAL NAME?

"I call him Mark because we're tight. He said to me, 'Dude, I want you to call me Mark.' His full name is Mark O'Meara, because he's right under Obama on my phone. People say, 'Dude, that's the name of a professional golfer,' and that's true, but that's why he changed his name." **WRONG, BUT DON'T YOU WISH THAT WAS TRUE?**

## "I WOULD GET THE TERMINATOR TO KILL ALL OF ONE DIRECTION!"

### WHICH COMEDIAN FEATURED IN THE DEATH TO ALL BUT METAL VIDEO?

"Sarah... Silverfish. Sarah Silverman?! Listen, you have to know that I have a habit of not remembering people's names. Silverfish are weird creatures, they can eat a thousand times

their own body weight in wood. Did you know that? I watch a lot of Animal Planet."

### YOU'RE HALF-RIGHT, BUT YOU MAKE UP FOR IT WITH A HUGE INFORMATIVE INSECT FACT

## ON THE HYPOTHETICAL...

### WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WERE TIGER WOODS FOR A DAY?

"You know what I would do? Just for fun, I would try to get back with his ex-wife, Elin – just to see if I could do it. If I was Tiger Woods – but with my personality – I think I could do it because I've got more game than Tiger.

He's rich and a great athlete, but he doesn't know how to make women feel special."

### IF THEY WERE MAKING A MOVIE OF YOUR LIFE, WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY YOU?

"There's only a few people who could play me. Brad Pitt is really

good-looking. I heard Ryan Gosling has a big dick, so he could do it. Think about it, who would you rather kiss: Lemmy or Ryan? Actually, I'd pick Lemmy."

### IF YOU COULD BACK TO ANY POINT IN THE PAST, WHERE WOULD YOU GO AND WHY?

"I would go back to the time that The Terminator was around and have him kill all of the people in One Direction. Actually, I'd be The Terminator and would go back to kill the parents of all of the people in One Direction."



## LOVELY STUFF

## SPIRITUAL HEADMELTER...

### WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN?

"I would say: having a real vagina or a real penis. That's not all, though. You've got to have a head!"

**ER, YOU'VE TAKEN THIS A LITTLE TOO LITERALLY**

## SACHEL SCORED

# 92%

As with most things that come out of the mouths of Steel Panther, it's hard to know quite what to believe. Taking this at face value, though – from drug-dealing Presidents to killing popstars – it's certainly been one hell of a ride!

## THE LEADERBOARD!

WHO TO BEAT IN 2015!



LEMMY,  
MOTORHEAD

99%



ICE-T,  
BODY COUNT

97%



ALEX GASKARTH,  
ALL TIME LOW

55%



# THE PRODIGY

## THE DAY IS MY ENEMY



**THE NEW ALBUM OUT 30.03.15**  
INCLUDES 'WILD FRONTIER' AND 'NASTY'  
CD / GATEFOLD DOUBLE VINYL / DELUXE 3LP VINYL BOX / DL

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KERRANG!

"THEY'LL SCORCH THE COMPETITION THIS YEAR"

NME



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